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**RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 1st -Apr-2021**

1. With reference to the Constitution of India, prohibitions or limitations or provisions contained in ordinary laws cannot act as prohibitions or limitations on the constitutional powers under Article 142. It could mean which one of the following?
- (a) The decisions taken by the Election Commission of India while discharging its duties cannot be challenged in any court of law.
 - (b) The Supreme Court of India is not constrained in the exercise of its powers by laws made by the Parliament.
 - (c) In the event of grave financial crisis in the country, the President of India can declare Financial Emergency without the counsel from the Cabinet.
 - (d) State Legislatures cannot make laws on certain matters without the concurrence of Union Legislature.

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Article 142 “provide(s) a unique power to the Supreme Court, to do “complete justice” between the parties, i.e., where at times law or statute may not provide a remedy, the Court can extend itself to put a quietus to a dispute in a manner which would befit the facts of the case.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/01/plea-in-sc-against-uniform-civil-law-on-divorce-and-alimony/>

2. Consider the following statements about National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company (NCGTC):
- 1. It was set up by the Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance.
 - 2. It is implementing the Poorest States Inclusive Growth Programme (PSIG Programme).

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **S1: National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Ltd (NCGTC)** is a private limited company incorporated under the Companies Act 1956 on March 28, 2014, established by the Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, as a wholly owned company of the Government of India, **to act as a common trustee company for multiple credit guarantee funds.**
- **S2: SIDBI is implementing the Poorest States Inclusive Growth Programme (PSIG Programme)**, funded by UKAid from the Department for International Development (DFID), aims to improve access for poor, mainly women, to a variety of financial services in the 4 low income states viz., Bihar, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. **NCGTC manages two collateralized funds under the Programme.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/01/emergency-credit-line-guarantee-scheme-eclgs-2/>



3. Consider the following statements:

1. In India, the inflation target is set by the Government of India, in consultation with the Reserve Bank, once in every five years.
2. As per the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, the central bank is required to organise at least six meetings of the monetary policy committee (MPC) in a year.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- S1: In May 2016, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Act, 1934 was amended to provide a statutory basis for the implementation of the flexible inflation targeting framework. The amended RBI Act also provides for the **inflation target to be set by the Government of India, in consultation with the Reserve Bank, once in every five years.**
- S2: As per the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, the central bank is required to organise **at least four meetings** of the MPC in a year.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/01/inflation-targeting-2/>

4. The Committee of Experts (CoE) under the chairmanship of D.B. Shekatkar, was in the news, is related to:

- (a) Economic capital framework
- (b) Commercial coal mining in India
- (c) Monetary policy committee
- (d) Military reforms

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **What are military farms?**
- The farms were set up with the sole requirement of supplying hygienic cow milk to troops in garrisons across British India. The first military farm was raised on February 1, 1889, at Allahabad.
- Post-Independence, they flourished with 30,000 heads of cattle in 130 farms all over India. They were even established in Leh and Kargil in the late 1990s.
- For more than a century, the farms supplied 3.5 crore litres of milk and 25,000 tonnes of hay yearly.
- **Suggestions for closure:**
 - In 2012, the Quarter Master General branch had recommended their closure.
 - **In December 2016, the Lt. Gen. D.B. Shekatkar (retd.) committee, which was appointed to recommend measures to enhance combat capability and rebalance defence expenditure of the armed forces.**

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/01/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-1-april-2021/>

5. Atal Innovation Mission is set up under the

- (a) Department of Science and Technology



- (b) Ministry of Employment
- (c) NITI Aayog
- (d) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **AIM-PRIME:**

- Launched by **Atal Innovation Mission** (<http://niti.gov.in/aim>) in partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) & Venture Center.
- AIM-PRIME (Program for Researchers on Innovations, Market-Readiness & Entrepreneurship) is an initiative to promote and support science-based deep-tech startups & ventures across India.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/01/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-1-april-2021/>

6. Consider the following statements:

1. Whenever forest land is diverted for non-forest purposes, it is mandatory under the Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006 that an equivalent area of non-forest land has to be taken up for compensatory afforestation.
2. As per the rules, 90% of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund money is to be given to the states while 10% is to be retained by the Centre.
3. As per recent notification by GOI, states which have a forest land of more than 75% of their geographical area need not provide non-forest land for compensatory afforestation.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- S3: the Ministry of Environment notified that states which have a forest land of more than 75% of their geographical area need not provide non-forest land for compensatory afforestation. Instead, land can be taken up in states with lesser forest cover. Further, it was also notified that the minimum area of compensatory land should be five hectares if the land is not contiguous to a forest.
- S1: According to the **Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980**, each time forest land is diverted, the project proponent has to pay the state to undertake plantation and for the ecosystem services lost due to diverting forest land, called Net Present Value (NPV). Whenever forest land is diverted for non-forest purposes, it is mandatory under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 that an equivalent area of non-forest land has to be taken up for compensatory afforestation.
- S2: As per the rules, **90% of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund money is to be given to the states while 10% is to be retained by the Centre.**

Refer: <http://egreenwatch.nic.in/public/aboutcompa.aspx>

7. In which one of the following states is Neora Valley National Park located?

- (a) Assam
- (b) West Bengal



- (c) Kerala
- (d) Meghalaya

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Neora Valley National Park** is situated in the Kalimpong district, **West Bengal**, India and was established in 1986.
- It is the land of the elegant red panda in the pristine undisturbed natural habitat with rugged inaccessible hilly terrain and rich diverse flora and fauna making this park an important wilderness zone.

Refer: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neora_Valley_National_Park

8. In which one of the following states is Tal Chhapar Wildlife Sanctuary located?

- (a) Madhya Pradesh
- (b) West Bengal
- (c) Assam
- (d) Rajasthan

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Tal Chhapar Sanctuary** is a sanctuary located in the Churu district of Northwestern **Rajasthan** in the Shekhawati region of India. It is known for blackbucks and is also home to a variety of birds. The sanctuary is 210 km from Jaipur on the fringe of the Great Indian Desert and situated on road from Ratangarh to Sujangarh.
- **Tal Chhapar is a refuge of the blackbuck.**

Refer: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tal_Chhapar_Sanctuary

9. Consider the following statements about Indian antelope (blackbuck):

1. It can be found only in India.
2. It is listed as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List.
3. It is active mainly during the day.
4. In India, hunting of blackbuck is prohibited under Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- S4: In India, hunting of blackbuck is prohibited under Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972.
- S1: The blackbuck is native to the Indian subcontinent, but extirpated in Pakistan and Bangladesh. In Nepal, the last surviving blackbuck population inhabits the Blackbuck Conservation Area south of Bardia National Park.
- S3: The blackbuck is active mainly during the day. It forms three type of small groups, female, male, and bachelor herds.
- S2: It is listed as least concern on the IUCN Red List.



Refer: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blackbuck>

10. Which of the following are the most likely places to find the musk deer in its natural habitat?

1. Askot Wildlife Sanctuary
2. Gangotri National Park
3. Kishanpur Wildlife Sanctuary
4. Manas National Park

Select the correct answer using the given code below

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

Ans: (a)

Example:

- **Askot Musk Deer Sanctuary** is located 54 km from Pithoragarh near the town of Askot in **Uttarakhand**. As the name suggests, the sanctuary has been set up primarily for the conservation of musk deer and its natural habitat.
- S2: Various rare and endangered species like bharal or blue sheep, black bear, brown bear, Himalayan Monal, Himalayan Snowcock, Himalayan Thar, musk deer and Snow leopard are found in the park.
- S3 and S4: Musk deer are largely distributed in the Himalayan high altitude belts, so Manas and Kishanpur can be discounted.

Refer: UPSC CSE 2020

RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 2nd -Apr-2021

11. Consider the following statements:

1. In the first Lok Sabha, the largest party in the opposition was the Swatantra Party.
2. In the Lok Sabha, a “Leader of the Opposition” was recognized for the first time in 1969.
3. In the Lok Sabha, if a party does not have a minimum of 75 members, its leader cannot be recognized as the Leader of the Opposition.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?



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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- S1: It is wrong because the Communist Party of India (CPI) was the single largest opposition party in the First general Election. CPI won in 16 seats.
- S3: It is wrong because in order to receive the status of opposition party and Consequent Leader of Opposition Tag a **party should secure 10% of the total strength of the House i.e. 55 seats in the Lok Sabha**. This is as per the Mavalakar Rule.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/02/why-haryana-amended-rules-for-conduct-of-business-in-assembly/>

12. Prakash Singh case is more popularly associated with which of the following?

- (a) Federalism in India
- (b) Police reforms in India
- (c) Electoral reforms in India
- (d) Educational reforms in India

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **What is the SC's Prakash Singh judgment on police reforms?**

- Prakash Singh, who served as DGP of UP Police and Assam Police besides other postings, filed a PIL in the Supreme Court post retirement, in 1996, seeking police reforms.
- In a landmark judgment, the Supreme Court **in September 2006** had directed all states and Union Territories to bring in police reforms.
- **What measures were suggested by the Supreme Court?**
 - **Fixing the tenure and selection of the DGP** to avoid situations where officers about to retire in a few months are given the post.
 - In order to ensure no political interference, **a minimum tenure** was sought for the Inspector General of Police so that they are not transferred mid-term by politicians.
 - Postings of officers should be done by **Police Establishment Boards (PEB)** comprising police officers and senior bureaucrats to insulate powers of postings and transfers from political leaders.
 - Set up **State Police Complaints Authority (SPCA)** to give a platform where common people aggrieved by police action could approach.
 - Separate investigation and law and order functions to better improve policing.
 - Set up of **State Security Commissions (SSC)** that would have members from civil society.
 - Form **a National Security Commission**.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/02/the-2006-supreme-court-ruling-on-police-reforms/>

13. With reference to Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), which of the following statements is/are correct?



1. It is an international organisation of eight nations of South Asia and Southeast Asia.
2. It uses the alphabetical order of country names for the Chairmanship.
3. Its secretariat is based in Kathmandu, Nepal.

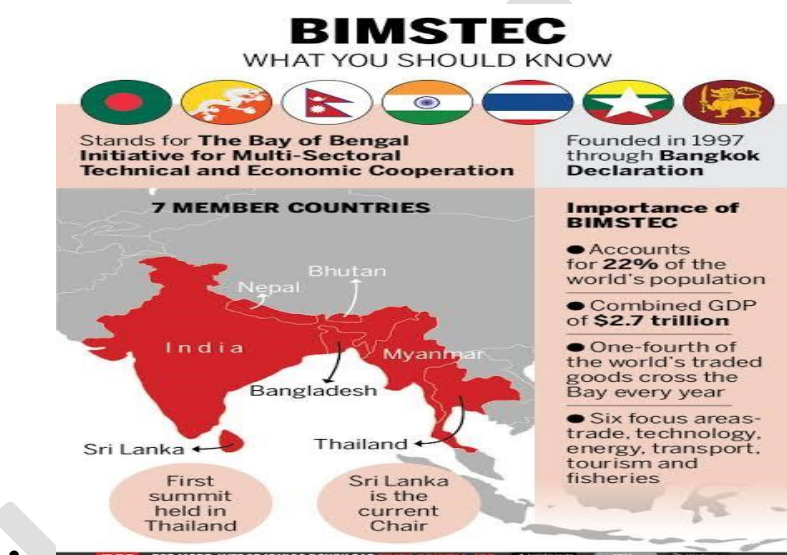
Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- S1: The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is an international organisation of **seven nations of South Asia and Southeast Asia**. It includes all the major countries of South Asia, except Maldives, Afghanistan and Pakistan.
- S2: The **BIMSTEC uses the alphabetical order for the Chairmanship**. The Chairmanship of the BIMSTEC has been taken in rotation commencing with Bangladesh (1997–1999).
- S3: The **BIMSTEC Permanent Secretariat** at **Dhaka** was opened in 2014 and India contributes 32% of its expenditure.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/02/bimstec-3/>

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

- | Neutrino observatory | Location |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. IceCube | South Pole, Antarctica |
| 2. ANTARES | Toulon, France |
| 3. JUNO | Kamioka, Japan |
| 4. Baikal-GVD | Lake Baikal, Russia |

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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



Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- IceCube:- South Pole, Antarctica
- ANTARES:- under the Mediterranean Sea off the coast of Toulon, France
- **JUNO**(Jiangmen Underground Neutrino Observatory):- **Kaiping, China**
- Baikal-GVD:- Lake Baikal, Russia
- **About Baikal- GVD:**
 - It is one of the three largest neutrino detectors in the world along with the IceCube at the South Pole and ANTARES in the Mediterranean Sea.
 - It seeks to study in detail the elusive fundamental particles called neutrinos and to possibly determine their sources.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/02/baikal-gvd-gigaton-volume-detector/>

15. Consider the following statements about neutrinos:

1. They are the second most abundant particles after photons.
2. They do not carry a charge.
3. They do not interact with matter.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Neutrinos**, first proposed by Swiss scientist Wolfgang Pauli in 1930, are **the second most widely occurring particle in the universe**, only second to photons, the particle which makes up light.
- **So where do neutrinos fit in?**
- What makes neutrinos especially interesting is that they are abundant in nature, with about a thousand trillion of them passing through a human body every second. In fact, they are the second most abundant particles, after photons, which are particles of light. But while neutrinos are abundant, they are not easy to catch, this is because **they do not carry a charge**, as a result of which **they do not interact with matter**.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/02/baikal-gvd-gigaton-volume-detector/>

16. Consider the following statements about Lake Baikal:

1. It is the oldest existing freshwater lake on Earth.
2. It is the world's deepest lake.
3. It was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:



- Russian scientists recently launched **one of the world's biggest underwater neutrino telescopes called the Baikal-GVD (Gigaton Volume Detector)** in the waters of **Lake Baikal, the world's deepest lake situated in Siberia.**
- It is the oldest existing freshwater lake on Earth (20 million–25 million years old), as well as the deepest continental body of water [more>>](#)
- .UNESCO declared Lake Baikal a World Heritage Site in 1996.
<https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/754/>

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/02/baikal-gvd-gigaton-volume-detector/>

17. Consider the following statements about National Small Savings Fund (NSSF):

1. It was established in 1999 within the Public Account of India.
2. All deposits under small savings schemes are credited to the NSSF.
3. It is administered by the Ministry of Finance, Government of India.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- National Small Savings Fund (NSSF) was **established in 1999 within the Public Account of India** for pooling the money from different SSSs. **Collections from all small savings schemes are credited to the NSSF.** Similarly, withdrawals under small savings schemes by the depositors are made out of this Fund. The money in the account are used by the centre and states to finance their fiscal deficit. The balance in the Fund is invested in Central and State Government Securities. Pattern of utilization of the fund among the centre and states is decided from time to time by the Government of India.
- The NSSF is **administered by the Government of India, Ministry of Finance under National Small Savings Fund Rules, 2001**, which is derived from Article 283(1) of the Constitution.
- **No interest cut on small savings:**
 - Hours after notifying significant cuts in small savings instruments' returns for this quarter, the government backtracked and reversed the sharp rate cuts.
 - **How are interest rates decided?**
 - Theoretically, since 2016, interest rate resetting has been done based on yields of government securities of the corresponding maturity with some spread on the scheme for senior citizens. However, in practice, the interest rate changes are made considering several other factors.
 - The small savings schemes basket comprises 12 instruments including the Savings Deposit, National Saving Certificate (NSC), Public Provident Fund (PPF), Kisan Vikas Patra (KVP) and Sukanya Samriddhi Scheme.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/02/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-2-april-2021/>

18. Consider the following statements regarding Dadasaheb Phalke Award:

1. It is India's highest award in the field of cinema.



2. It is presented annually at the National Film Awards ceremony by the Directorate of Film Festivals, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
 3. The first recipient of the Dadasaheb Phalke Award was Devika Rani.
- Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **About the Award:**

- **Dadasaheb Phalke award is India's highest award in cinema.**
- It is presented annually at the **National Film Awards ceremony by the Directorate of Film Festivals** (an organisation set up by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting).
- The award prize consists of a golden lotus, a cash prize of ₹10 lakh and a shawl.
- The award is given to people for their "outstanding contribution to the growth and development of Indian cinema".
- It was first presented in 1969. **The first recipient of the award was actress Devika Rani, "the first lady of Indian cinema."**

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/02/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-2-april-2021/>

19. With reference to India's Nagarjunsagar-Srisaïlam Tiger Reserve, consider the following statements:

1. The River Godavari forms northern most boundary of the Tiger Reserve.
2. The reserve primarily comprises of southern tropical dry mixed deciduous forest.
3. The native population of the reserve includes the tribes of Chenchus.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- S1: **River Krishna** forms northern most boundary of the Tiger Reserve.
 - S2: The reserve primarily comprises of southern tropical dry mixed deciduous forest
 - S3: The native population of the reserve includes the tribes of Chenchus.
- <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/andhra-pradesh/hidden-chenchus-and-crouching-tigers-of-nallamala/article28763206.ece>

Refer: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nagarjunsagar-Srisaïlam_Tiger_Reserve

20. Consider the following statements regarding Sundarbans:

1. It is a cluster of low-lying islands in the Bay of Bengal, spread across India, Bangladesh and Myanmar (Burma).
2. It is the only mangrove habitat in the world for *Panthera tigris tigris* species.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?



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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- The Sundarbans is a cluster of low-lying islands in the Bay of Bengal, **spread across India and Bangladesh**, famous for its unique mangrove forests. This active delta region is among the largest in the world, measuring about 40,000 sq km.
https://www.wwfindia.org/about_wwf/critical_regions/sundarbans3/about_sundarbans/
- The Sundarbans is of universal importance for globally endangered species including the Royal Bengal Tiger, Ganges and Irawadi dolphins, estuarine crocodiles and the critically endangered endemic river terrapin (Batagur baska). **It is the only mangrove habitat in the world for Panthera tigris tigris species.** <https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/798/>

Refer: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sundarbans#Geography>



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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 3rd-Apr-2021

21. The 'Global Gender Gap' report is released by which of the following?

- (a) World Economic Forum
- (b) UN – Women
- (c) United Nations Development Programme
- (d) Both (a) and (b)

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **World Economic Forum has released the Global Gender Gap Report 2021.**
- It benchmarks 156 countries on their progress towards gender parity in four dimensions:
 - Economic Participation and Opportunity,
 - Educational Attainment,
 - Health and Survival and
 - Political Empowerment.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/03/wefs-global-gender-gap-report/>

22. With reference to National Policy for Rare Diseases 2021, consider the following statements:

1. It aims to increase focus on indigenous research and local production of medicines.
2. It makes use of a crowdfunding mechanism to cover the cost of treatment of rare diseases.
3. It ensure availability of paramedics and doctors as per Indian Public Health Standard (IPHS) norm in high priority districts by 2022.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation: **Here are 7 points you need to know about the National Policy for Rare Diseases:**

- Along with lowering the cost of treatment of rare diseases, **the policy aims to increase focus on indigenous research and local production of medicines.**
- Those who are suffering from rare diseases (diseases listed under Group 1 in the rare disease policy) that require one-time treatment will have the financial support of up to Rs20 lakh under the umbrella scheme of Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi. It will cover about 40 per cent of the population who are eligible under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana.
- **The policy will make use of a crowdfunding mechanism to cover the cost of treatment of rare diseases.** As part of it, corporates and individuals will be encouraged to extend financial support through a robust IT platform.
- A national hospital-based registry of rare diseases will be created to ensure adequate data and comprehensive definitions of such diseases are available for those interested in research and development.



- Through the help of Health and Wellness Centres, District Early Intervention Centres and counselling, the policy aims to screen and detect rare diseases early at early stages, which will in turn help in their prevention.
- A draft of the policy was put in the public domain on January 13, 2020, and comments from stakeholders, the general public, organisations, states and Union territories were invited on the same. "All the comments received were examined in depth by an expert committee constituted by the health ministry," the statement issued by the ministry read.
- The Supreme Court and various high courts expressed concern about the lack of a national policy for rare diseases, the statement said. Rare diseases are difficult to research upon and availability and accessibility to medicines are important in the process of treatment. The policy aims to help the nation overcome these fundamental challenges.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/03/national-policy-for-rare-diseases-2021/>

23. Recently, the 'Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action' (JCPOA) was in news, is related to:

- historic deal to cut global petroleum output
- dispute settlement mechanism of WTO
- peace talks between the Taliban and the Afghan government
- an agreement on the Iranian nuclear program

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **About the Iran Nuclear Deal:**

- Also known as the **Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)**.
- The JCPOA was the result of prolonged negotiations from 2013 and 2015 between Iran and P5+1 (China, France, Germany, Russia, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the European Union, or the EU).
- Under the deal, Tehran agreed to significantly cut its stores of centrifuges, enriched uranium and heavy-water, all key components for nuclear weapons.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/03/the-joint-comprehensive-plan-of-action-jcpoa/>

24. The Constitution of India has recognised right to trade as a fundamental right. Which of the following in the Constitution of India correctly and appropriately imply the above statement?

- Article 14 and the provisions under the 42nd Amendment to the Constitution.
- Article 17 and the Directive Principles of state Policy in Part IV.
- Article 19 and freedom guaranteed in part III.
- Article 21 and provisions under the 44th Amendment to the constitution.

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The Constitution of India has recognised right to trade as a fundamental right under **Article 19(1)(g)** of the Constitution which allows citizens **"to practise any profession, or to carry on any occupation, trade or business."**
 - However, this right is not absolute, and it is subject to reasonable restriction. One such reasonable restriction is Environmental protection. That means the right to trade can be restricted if it adversely affects Environment.



- One of the legal issue with respect to **Haryana State Employment of Local Candidates Bill, 2020** is that it may not be able to withstand judicial scrutiny on the touchstone of **Article 19(1)(g)**. [more>>](#)

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/03/haryanas-quota-law-2/>

25. Consider the following statements regarding the 'Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding Systems' (HS):

1. It is a multipurpose international product nomenclature developed by the World Trade Organization (WTO).
2. The maintenance of the HS is a WTO priority.
3. It allows participating countries to classify traded goods on a common basis for customs purposes.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- S1: The **Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System** generally referred to as "Harmonized System" or simply "HS" is a multipurpose international product nomenclature developed by the **World Customs Organization (WCO)**.
- S2: **The maintenance of the HS is a WCO priority**. This activity includes measures to secure uniform interpretation of the HS and its periodic updating in light of developments in technology and changes in trade patterns.
- S3: It allows participating countries to classify traded goods on a common basis for customs purposes. At the international level, the Harmonized System (HS) for classifying goods is a six-digit code system.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/03/harmonized-system-of-nomenclature-code/>

26. Consider the following statements about InSight Mission:

1. It is part of NASA's Discovery Program.
2. It uses the gravitational waves generated by marsquakes to develop a map of the planet's deep interior.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation: **About InSight Mission:**

- InSight is part of NASA's **Discovery Program**.
- It will be the first mission to peer deep beneath the Martian surface, studying the planet's interior by measuring its heat output and listening for marsquakes, which are seismic events similar to earthquakes on Earth.



- It will use the **seismic waves generated by marsquakes** to develop a map of the planet's deep interior.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/03/nasas-insight-lander/>

27. The Directorate General of Foreign Trade has published a list of prohibited items for import in India. With reference to this, which of the following of items is/are prohibited for import into India?

1. Mutton Tallow
2. Soap Stocks
3. Ivory powder and waste
4. Sperm oil

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Each year billions worth of products are imported into India through air, sea and road from a number of countries. **The Directorate General of Foreign Trade controls all import and export into India and Importer Exporter Code (IEC) from the DGFT is required for all importers or exporters.** DGFT has published a list of prohibited items for import in India. **Items on this list cannot be imported into India under any circumstance.**
- **List of items prohibited for import into India:**
 - Mutton Tallow
 - Soap Stocks
 - Ivory powder and waste
 - Sperm oil
 - [More>>>>](#)

Refer: <https://www.dgft.gov.in/CP/>

28. Consider the following Statements:

1. The boundaries of a National Park is fixed by state government.
2. A Biosphere Reserve is declared to conserve a few specific species of flora and fauna.
3. In a Wildlife Sanctuary, limited biotic interference is permitted.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **The state government can fix and alter boundaries of the National Parks with prior consultation and approval with National Board of Wildlife.** There is no need to pass an act for alternation of boundaries of National Parks. **No human activities are permitted in a National Park.**



- The **major objectives of Biosphere Reserves** are: (i) To conserve diversity and integrity of plants, animals and micro-organism; (ii) To promote research on ecological conservation and other environmental aspects and; (iii) To provide facilities for education, awareness and training.
- **In a Wildlife Sanctuary, limited biotic interference is permitted.** Operations such as harvesting of timber, a collection of minor forest products and private ownership rights are permitted so long as they do not interfere with the well-being of animals. In other words, limited biotic interference is allowed.

Source: (UPSC 2010)

29. The Tropical Forest Alliance, a public-private partnership in which partners take voluntary actions, individually and in combination, to reduce the tropical deforestation, founded at

- (a) The Earth Summit on Sustainable Development 2002, Johannesburg
- (b) The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development 2012, Rio de Janeiro
- (c) The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 2015, Paris
- (d) The UN Convention to Combat Desertification 2019, New Delhi

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **The Tropical Forest Alliance 2020 was founded in 2012 at Rio+20.**
- TFA 2020 is a public-private partnership in which partners take voluntary actions, individually and in combination, to reduce the tropical deforestation associated with the sourcing of commodities such as palm oil, soy, beef, and paper and pulp. The Alliance does so by tackling the drivers of tropical deforestation using a range of market, policy, and communications approaches.
- Obj:- TFA 2020 will contribute to mobilizing and coordinating actions by governments, the private sector and civil society to reduce tropical deforestation related to key agricultural commodities by 2020.

Refer: [http://climateinitiativesplatform.org/index.php/Tropical_Forest_Alliance_\(TFA\)](http://climateinitiativesplatform.org/index.php/Tropical_Forest_Alliance_(TFA))

30. Which of the following is/are Natural world heritage sites of India?

1. Great Nicobar National Park
2. Kaziranga National Park
3. Nanda Devi and Valley of Flowers National Parks
4. Sundarbans National Park

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- A UNESCO World Heritage Site is a place that is listed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization as of special cultural or physical significance.
- **Natural (7)**
 - Great Himalayan National Park Conservation Area (2014)
 - Kaziranga National Park (1985)



- Keoladeo National Park (1985)
- Manas Wildlife Sanctuary (1985)
- Nanda Devi and Valley of Flowers National Parks (1988,2005)
- Sundarbans National Park (1987)
- Western Ghats (2012)
- **Mixed (1)**
 - Khangchendzonga National Park (2016)

Refer: http://www.wiienviis.nic.in/Database/whs_pas_8227.aspx

RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 4th-Apr-2021

31. Consider the following statements about International Criminal Court (ICC):

1. It is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations (UN)
2. It is the world's first permanent international criminal court.
3. It is the only international court that adjudicates general disputes between countries.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **About ICC:**

- The International Criminal Court (ICC), located in **The Hague**, is the court of last resort for prosecution of genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity.
- It is **the first permanent, treaty based, international criminal court** established to help end impunity for the perpetrators of the most serious crimes of concern to the international community.
- Its founding treaty, **the Rome Statute**, entered into force on July 1, 2002.
- **Funding:**
 - Although the Court's expenses are funded primarily by States Parties, it also receives voluntary contributions from governments, international organisations, individuals, corporations and other entities.
- **Composition and voting power:**
 - The Court's management oversight and legislative body, the Assembly of States Parties, consists of one representative from each state party.
 - Each state party has one vote and "every effort" has to be made to reach decisions by consensus. If consensus cannot be reached, decisions are made by vote.
 - The Assembly is presided over by a president and two vice-presidents, who are elected by the members to three-year terms.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/05/international-criminal-court-icc-4/>

32. Consider the following statements about Stand up India scheme:

1. It was launched to coincide with the celebration of the 125th birth anniversary of Dr. Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar.



2. The scheme is anchored by Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance, Government of India.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- S1: The Stand-Up India Scheme launched to coincide with the celebration of the **125th birth anniversary of Dr. Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar**, seeks to leverage the institutional credit structure to reach out to the underserved sector of people such as Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Women entrepreneurs so as to enable them to participate in the economic growth of the nation.
- S2: The scheme is anchored by **Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance**, Government of India.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/05/stand-up-india-scheme/>

33. What is “Ingenuity Helicopter”, sometimes seen in the news?

- (a) A helicopter specialized in emergency animal rescue
- (b) A helicopter used to transport critical covid-19 patients
- (c) A helicopter designed for firefighting service
- (d) None of the above

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **About Ingenuity Mars Helicopter:**

- Part of **NASA’s Mars 2020 mission**, the small coaxial, drone rotorcraft will **serve as a technology demonstrator for the potential use of flying probes** on other worlds, with the potential to scout locations of interest and support the future planning of driving routes for Mars rovers.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/05/ingenuity-helicopter/>

34. Consider the following statements with reference to Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980

1. It prohibits the felling of forests for any “non-forestry” use without prior clearance by the central government.
2. It gives state governments the power to lease forest land to private individuals and corporations.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation: **About the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980:**

- The FCA is the principal legislation that regulates deforestation in the country.
- It prohibits the felling of forests for any “non-forestry” use without prior clearance by the central government.
- The clearance process includes seeking consent from local forest rights-holders and from wildlife authorities.



- The Centre is empowered to reject such requests or allow it with legally binding conditions.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/05/draft-amendment-to-forest-conservation-act/>

35. Consider the following statements about Chilika lake:

1. It is one of the largest fresh water lakes in Asia.
2. It is famous for the phumdis floating over it.
3. It was the first Indian site to be placed on Montreux Record.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- S3: It was the first Indian site to be *placed on Montreux Record* in 1993. In 2002, Chilika was taken out of the Montreux Record, in light of the improved conditions of the lake.
- S1: The Chilika lake in Odisha, Asia's largest brackish water lake, was once part of the Bay of Bengal.
- S2: **Loktak lake** is famous for the phumdis (heterogeneous mass of vegetation, soil and organic matter at various stages of decomposition) floating over it.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/05/chilika-was-a-part-of-the-bay-of-bengal/>

36. Consider the following statements regarding Irrawaddy Dolphins:

1. Chilika is home to the only known population of Irrawaddy Dolphins in India.
2. They are 'Endangered' as per the IUCN Red List.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Major attraction at Chilika is **Irrawaddy dolphins** which are often spotted off Satpada Island.
- They are '**Endangered**' as per the **IUCN Red List**.
- Of the six varieties of dolphins that are found in India's rivers, lakes and around coastline, the Irrawaddy Dolphins are among the lowest in number.
- The Gangetic river dolphins are freshwater species that are found in the Sundarban river system and Brahmaputra rivers. On the other hand, the Irrawaddy Dolphins are found mostly in brackish water zones and that too in Chilika.
- At least 146 endangered Irrawaddy Dolphins were sighted in Odisha's Chilika lake during the annual dolphin census conducted by the state's forest department.



- The Irrawaddy Dolphin (*Orcaella brevirostris*) is the flagship species of Chilika lake. **Chilika is home to the only known population of Irrawaddy Dolphins in India.** One of only two lagoons in the world is home to this species — Irrawaddy Dolphins.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/05/chilika-was-a-part-of-the-bay-of-bengal/>

37. Consider the following statements with reference to Similipal Biosphere Reserve:

1. It is located in the biogeographical region of the Deccan Peninsula and the Biotic Province of Central India.
 2. It has the largest zone of Sal in all of India.
 3. 90% of this Reserve is covered by evergreen forest.
- Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- S2 & S3: The **biosphere reserve has the largest zone of Sal in all of India.** In addition, the tropical monsoon climate provides ideal circumstances for the development of a distinctive biodiversity, highlighted by 1,076 species of vascular plants. [More>>](#)
- The **Pachmarhi Biosphere** Reserve is located in the biogeographical region of the Deccan Peninsula and the Biotic Province of Central India.
- **Similipal Biosphere Reserve** located in northeast India, **the Similipal Biosphere Reserve lies within two biogeographical regions:** the Mahanadian east coastal region of the Oriental realm and the Chhotanagpur biotic province of the Deccan peninsular zone.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/05/odisha-government-proposes-states-second-biosphere-reserve-at-mahendragiri/>

38. 'Sankalp se Siddhi' is a Village and Digital Connect Drive launched by:

- (a) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
- (b) Regional Rural Bank
- (c) National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj
- (d) Tribal Co-operative Marketing Federation of India

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **Sankalp se Siddhi:**

- It is a Village and Digital Connect Drive launched by **TRIFED under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.**
- It is a 100 day drive started from April 1, 2021.
- The drive will entail 150 teams visiting ten villages each of which 10 in each region from TRIFED and State Implementation Agencies, visiting ten villages each.
- The main aim of this drive is to activate **the Van Dhan Vikas Kendras** in these villages.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/05/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-5-april-2021/>

39. Consider the following statements regarding Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve (GOMBR).

1. Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve is the first marine Biosphere in India.
2. It extends from Rameswaram to Tuticorin.
3. It is internationally recognised under the UNESCO-MAB programme.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The **Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve (GOMBR)** area is extending from Rameswaram to Tuticorin. It comprises of 21 Islands and this is the first Indian marine national park which is internationally recognised under the UNESCO-MAB programme. The IUCN commission on national parks and WWF identified the reserve as an area of particular concern because of its richest biodiversity and multiple use of the area. The GOMBR is the first marine Biosphere in India.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/05/odisha-government-proposes-states-second-biosphere-reserve-at-mahendragiri/>

40. Which of the following are part of UNESCO's World Network of Biosphere Reserves.

1. Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve
2. Manas Biosphere Reserve
3. Nokrek Biosphere Reserve
4. Kachchh Biosphere Reserve
5. Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve

Select the correct code:

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- 11 of the eighteen biosphere reserves are a part of the World Network of Biosphere Reserves, based on the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme list.


Name	States	Year
Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve	Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka	2000
Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve	Tamil Nadu	2001
Sundarbans Biosphere Reserve	West Bengal	2001



Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve	Uttarakhand	2004
Nokrek Biosphere Reserve	Meghalaya	2009
Pachmarhi Biosphere Reserve	Madhya Pradesh	2009
Simlipal Biosphere Reserve	Odisha	2009
Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve	Great Nicobar	2013
Achanakmar-Amarkantak Biosphere Reserve	Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh	2012
Agasthyamalai Biosphere Reserve	Kerala and Tamil Nadu	2016
Khangchendzonga National Park	Sikkim	2018

Refer: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/environment/ecological-sciences/biosphere-reserves/asia-and-the-pacific/india/>






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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 6th-Apr-2021

41. Consider the following statements with reference to Administrative Tribunals in India:
1. They are a part of traditional judicial system and derives their power from the state.
 2. They only have the power to try cases which are specially conferred upon them through some statute.
 3. It can decide the vires of a legislation.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **Administrative Tribunal And Court: Distinction:**

- **S1:** A court of law is a part of traditional judicial system and it derives its power from the state. On the other hand and administrative tribunal is an agency created by a statute and invested with judicial Powers.
- **S2:** Ordinary civil courts have judicial powers to try all suits of a civil nature, except those whose cognizance are either expressed or implied Barred. Administrative tribunals only have the power to try cases which are specially conferred upon them through some statute.
- **S3:** A court of law can decide the vires of a legislation while and tribunal cannot do so.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/06/tribunals-reforms-rationalisation-and-conditions-of-service-ordinance-2021/>

42. In 1976, the Parliament introduced Chapter XIV A into the Constitution via the 42nd Amendment, which introduced “Tribunals” provisions in accordance with the recommendations of the:

- (a) Balwant Rai Mehta Committee
- (b) Ashok Mehta Committee
- (c) Swaran Singh Committee
- (d) L M Singhvi Committee

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **What are tribunals?**

- Tribunal is a quasi-judicial institution that is set up to deal with problems such as resolving administrative or tax-related disputes. It performs a number of functions like adjudicating disputes, determining rights between contesting parties, making an administrative decision, reviewing an existing administrative decision and so forth.
- **Constitutional provisions:**
 - They were not originally a part of the Constitution.
 - The **42nd Amendment Act** introduced these provisions in accordance with the recommendations of the Swaran Singh Committee.
 - The Amendment introduced **Part XIV-A** to the Constitution, which deals with ‘Tribunals’ and contains two articles:



- **Article 323A** deals with Administrative Tribunals. These are quasi-judicial institutions that resolve disputes related to the recruitment and service conditions of persons engaged in public service.
- **Article 323B** deals with tribunals for other subjects such as Taxation, Industrial and labour, Foreign exchange, import and export, Land reforms, Food, Ceiling on urban property, Elections to Parliament and state legislatures, Rent and tenancy rights.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/06/tribunals-reforms-rationalisation-and-conditions-of-service-ordinance-2021/>

43. Consider the following statements regarding E9 initiative:

1. It was launched in 1993 at the UNESCO's Education For All (EFA) Summit in New Delhi, India.
2. It aims to accelerate recovery and advance the Sustainable Development Goal 3 agenda.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation: **What is E9 initiative?**

- The E9 is a forum of nine countries, which was formed to achieve the goals of **UNESCO's Education For All (EFA) initiative**. E-9 Initiative was launched in 1993 at the **EFA Summit in New Delhi, India**.
- The initiative aims to accelerate recovery and advance the Sustainable Development Goal 4 agenda by driving rapid change in education systems in three of the 2020 Global Education Meeting priorities: (i) support to teachers; (ii) investment in skills; and (iii) narrowing of the digital divide.
- Participants: Spearheaded by the UN, the E9 countries include Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria and Pakistan.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/06/e9-initiative/>

44. Recently, 'Xinjiang' was in news, is an autonomous territory in:

- (a) Russia
- (b) Myanmar
- (c) Vietnam
- (d) China

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Xinjiang is technically an autonomous region within China** — its largest region, rich in minerals, and sharing borders with many countries, including India, Russia and Afghanistan.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/06/who-are-ughurs-2/>

45. Xinjiang lies in the:

- (a) north-west of China
- (b) north-east of India
- (c) South-west of Tibet
- (d) South- east of Nepal

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Xinjiang lies in the north-west of China** and is the **country's biggest region**.
- Like Tibet, it is autonomous, meaning - in theory - **it has some powers of self-governance**. But in practice, both face major restrictions by the central government.
- It is a mostly **desert region**, producing about a **fifth of the world's cotton**.
- It is also rich in oil and natural gas and because of its proximity to Central Asia and Europe is seen by Beijing as an **important trade link**.
- In the early 20th Century, the Uighurs briefly declared independence, but the region was brought under the complete control of China's new Communist government in 1949.

Uighur population in Xinjiang



Source: Xinjiang government

BBC



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/06/who-are-uighurs-2/>

46. Which one of the following is/are best describes the 'Zombie fires'?

- (a) Fires burn trees up their entire length to the top.
- (b) Fires burn only surface litter and duff.
- (c) Fires occur in deep accumulations of humus, peat and similar dead vegetation that become dry enough to burn.
- (d) Fires that continues to burn underground and then reignites on the surface after a period of time.

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **Types of wildland fires:** There are three basic types of forest fires:

- **Crown fires** burn trees up their entire length to the top. These are the most intense and dangerous wildland fires.
- **Surface fires** burn only surface litter and duff. These are the easiest fires to put out and cause the least damage to the forest.
- **Ground fires** (sometimes called underground or subsurface fires) occur in deep accumulations of humus, peat and similar dead vegetation that become dry enough to burn. These fires move very slowly, but can become difficult to fully put out, or suppress. Occasionally, especially during prolonged drought, such fires can smoulder all winter underground and then emerge at the surface again in spring.
- **A zombie fire** is a fire that continues to burn underground and then reignites on the surface after a period of time.
- **Why in News?**
 - 'Zombie fires' becoming more frequent in Arctic in addition to fires occurring in the once-frozen tundra.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/06/forest-fires-in-the-spring-and-their-frequency-throughout-this-year/>

47. Consider the following statements:

1. On the recommendation of the National Commission on Agriculture (1976), the Forest Survey of India (FSI) was created in 1981.
2. The biennial "India State of Forest Report (ISFR)" is published by the Forest Survey of India (FSI).

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- S1: In its report in 1976, **the National Commission on Agriculture (NCA)** recommended the creation of a **National Forest Survey Organization** for a regular, periodic and comprehensive forest resources survey of the country, **leading to the creation of Forest Survey of India (FSI) in the same year.**
- S2: FSI assesses forest cover of the country every 2 years by digital interpretation of remote sensing satellite data and publishes the results in a biennial report called 'State of Forest Report'(SFR).



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/06/forest-fires-in-the-spring-and-their-frequency-throughout-this-year/>

48. Consider the following statements:

1. Digital currencies require no intermediary
2. Digital currencies are stable and are traded with the markets
3. Digital currencies only exist in electronic form
4. Digital currencies have all intrinsic properties like physical currency

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- S1: Since digital currencies **require no intermediary**, they are often the cheapest method to trade currencies.
- S2: Digital currencies are **stable and are traded with the markets**, whereas cryptocurrencies are traded via consumer sentiment and psychological triggers in price movement.
- S3: Digital currencies are currencies that are only accessible with computers or mobile phones, as **they only exist in electronic form**.
- S4: Digital currencies have **all intrinsic properties like physical currency**, and they allow for instantaneous transactions that can be seamlessly executed for making payments across borders when connected to supported devices and networks.
- **Key features of the digital currency:**
 - This is a **legal tender guaranteed by the central bank**, not a payment guaranteed by a third-party operator.
 - There is **no third-party transaction**, and hence, no transaction fee.
 - Unlike e-wallets, the digital currency **does not require Internet** connectivity. The payment is made through **Near-field Communication (NFC) technology**.
 - Unlike non-bank payment platforms that require users to link bank accounts, **this can be opened with a personal identification number**.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/06/chinas-digital-currency/>

49. Consider the following statements regarding Chenab Bridge:

1. It is the world's highest rail bridge.
2. This bridge was built in a record time by the Indian army.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation: **Chenab Bridge: World's highest Railway Bridge:**



- **Indian Railways** has completed the **construction** of the arch of **Chenab Bridge**, the world's highest railway **bridge** located in the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir.
- The Chenab bridge is part of the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla rail link project (USBRL).
- The length of the Chenab bridge will be 1,315 metres.
- It is 359m above the river bed level. The bridge is 35-metre higher than the Eiffel Tower in Paris.

Refer: fact for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/06/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-6-april-2021/>

50. Consider the following states:

1. Meghalaya
2. Mizoram
3. Arunachal Pradesh
4. Manipur
5. Nagaland

With reference to the states mentioned above, in terms of percentage of forest cover to the total area of the state, which one of the following is the correct descending order?

- (a) 2-1-4-3-5
- (b) 1-2-3-4-5
- (c) 2-3-1-4-5
- (d) 3-2-1-5-4

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **As per the India state of forest report-2019**, in terms of forest cover as percentage of total geographical area, the top five States are Mizoram (85.41%), Arunachal Pradesh (79.63%), Meghalaya (76.33%), Manipur (75.46%) and Nagaland (75.31%).

Refer: <http://164.100.117.97/WriteReadData/userfiles/ISFR2019%20Vol-I.pdf>

RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 7th-Apr-2021

51. As per the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), Heat wave is considered:

- (a) If maximum temperature of a station reaches at least 40°C or more for Plains
- (b) If maximum temperature of a station reaches at least 37°C or more for coastal stations
- (c) If maximum temperature of a station reaches at least 30°C or more for Hilly regions
- (d) All of the above

Explanation: **What is a heatwave?**

- The IMD says heatwave is considered when the maximum temperature of a station touches at least 40 degrees Celsius or more for plains, 37 degrees Celsius or more for coastal regions and at least 30 degrees Celsius or more for hilly regions.
- **What are the criteria?**



- Heatwave is declared when the departure from normal temperature is by 4.5 to 6.4 degrees Celsius and a severe heatwave is when the departure from normal is more than 6.4 degrees Celsius.
- **For plains, based on actuals maximum temperature**, IMD considers heatwave when actual maximum temperature is more than 45 degrees Celsius and severe heatwave when it is more than 47 degrees Celsius.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/07/what-are-heat-waves/>

52. Consider the following statements about Central Vigilance Commission (CVC):

1. It is only an advisory body.
2. It does not have powers to register criminal case.
3. It has supervisory powers over Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- S1: CVC is only an advisory body. Central Government Departments are free to either accept or reject CVC's advice in corruption cases.
- S2: CVC does not have powers to register criminal case. It deals only with vigilance or disciplinary cases.
- S3: **CVC has supervisory powers over CBI. However, CVC does not have the power to call for any file from CBI or to direct CBI to investigate any case in a particular manner.** CBI is under administrative control of Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), which means that, the powers to appoint, transfer, suspend CBI officers lie with DoPT.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/07/vigilance-officers-to-be-transferred-every-3-years/>

53. The draft of 'National Migrant Labour Policy' was released recently by the:

- (a) International Institute for Population Sciences.
- (b) India Centre for Migration.
- (c) NITI Aayog.
- (d) Both (b) and (c)

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- NITI Aayog, along with a working subgroup of officials and members of civil society, had prepared a draft National Migrant Labour policy.
- The Policy is a clear statement of intent to better recognise migrants' contribution to the economy and support them in their endeavours.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/07/draft-national-migrant-labour-policy/>

54. Consider the following statements about North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO):

1. It is an intergovernmental military alliance.



2. Since its founding, the admission of new member states has increased the alliance from the original 45 countries to 70.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation: **About North Atlantic Treaty Organization:**

- It is **an intergovernmental military alliance**.
- Established by **Washington treaty**.
- Treaty that was **signed on 4 April 1949**.
- **Headquarters** — Brussels, Belgium.
- **Headquarters of Allied Command Operations** — Mons, Belgium.
- **Significance:**
 - It constitutes a system of collective defence whereby its independent member states agree to mutual defence in response to an attack by any external party.
- **Composition:**
 - Since its founding, the admission of new member states has increased the alliance from the original 12 countries to 30. The most recent member state to be added to NATO was North Macedonia on 27 March 2020.
 - NATO membership is **open to “any other European state in a position to further the principles of this Treaty and to contribute to the security of the North Atlantic area.”**
- **Objectives:**
 - **Political** – NATO promotes democratic values and enables members to consult and cooperate on defence and security-related issues to solve problems, build trust and, in the long run, prevent conflict.
 - **Military** – NATO is committed to the peaceful resolution of disputes. If diplomatic efforts fail, it has the military power to undertake crisis-management operations. These are carried out under the collective defence clause of NATO’s founding treaty – **Article 5 of the Washington Treaty or under a United Nations mandate**, alone or in cooperation with other countries and international organisations.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/07/north-atlantic-treaty-organization-2/>

55. Consider the following statements:

1. Plasma is the liquid part of the blood.
2. Convalescent plasma extracted from the blood of patients recovering from an infection, is a source of antigens against the infection.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

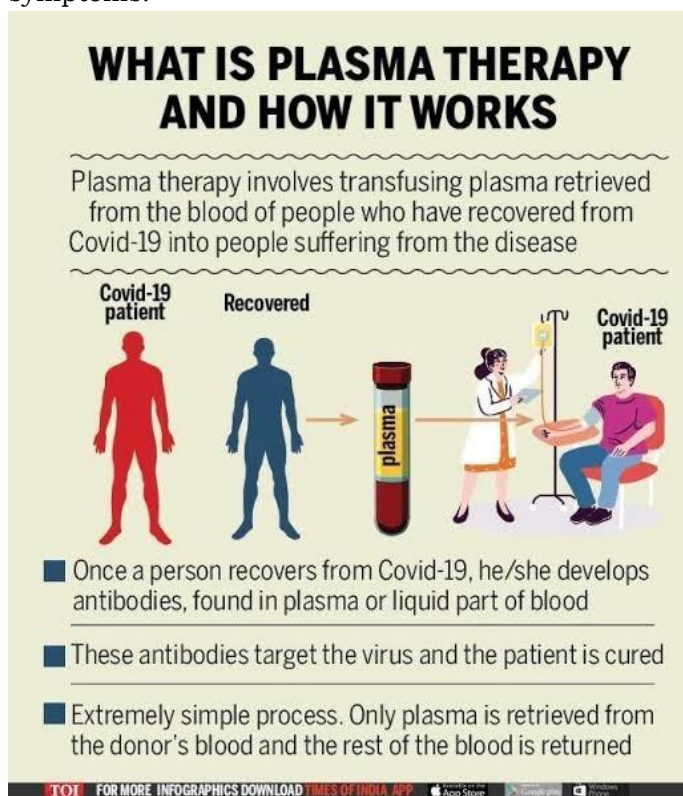
- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2



Ans: (a)

Explanation: **What is plasma therapy?**

- **Plasma** is the liquid part of the blood. **Convalescent plasma**, extracted from the blood of patients recovering from an infection, is a **source of antibodies** against the infection.
- The therapy involves using their plasma to help others recover.
- **For Covid-19**, this has been one of the treatment options. The donor would have to be a documented case of Covid-19 and healthy for 28 days since the last symptoms.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/07/convalescent-plasma/>

56. The term 'ELSA-D' is sometimes seen in the news in the context of:

- Indigenous Satellite Navigation System
- Security of National Highways
- Thermonuclear weapon system
- Space debris removal system

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- On March 22, 2021, a Soyuz rocket put 38 payloads into space. Among them was **'The End-of-Life Services by Astroscale demonstration mission' (Elsa-D)**, developed by a Japanese company called Astroscale.
- It is the **world's first commercial mission** to demonstrate a **space debris removal system**.
- **Read more>>** <https://www.thehindu.com/children/what-constitutes-space-debris-and-why-they-need-our-attention/article34237578.ece>

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/07/space-debris/>



57. The term 'Lab on wheels' is sometimes seen in the news in the context of:

- (a) Space junk clean up
- (b) Defence India startup challenge
- (c) Open science movement
- (d) Innovative science outreach programme

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **'Lab on Wheels': What is the concept?**

- It will have students of the university travelling in a bus across Delhi to teach government school students and underprivileged children.
- The idea is to impart education in the fields of Mathematics and Science to those students who come from marginalised and poor economic backgrounds, in order to pique their interests in these subjects while pursuing higher education.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/07/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-6-april-2021-2/>

58. Consider the following statements:

1. National tiger conservation Authority (NTCA) was constituted under enabling provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
2. NTCA was set up under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister of India.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- The National Tiger Conservation Authority is a statutory body under the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.
- It was constituted under enabling provisions of the **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**, as amended in 2006, for strengthening tiger conservation.
- The National Tiger Conservation Authority has been fulfilling its mandate within the ambit of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 for strengthening tiger conservation in the country by retaining an oversight through advisories/normative guidelines, based on appraisal of tiger status, ongoing conservation initiatives and recommendations of specially constituted Committees.
- **Composition: Set up under the Chairmanship of the Minister for Environment and Forests.** The Authority will have eight experts or professionals having qualifications and experience in wildlife conservation and welfare of people including tribal, apart from three Members of Parliament of whom two will be elected by the House of the People and one by the Council of States.

Refer: <https://ntca.gov.in/>

59. Consider the following statements with reference to India state of forest report-2019:

1. Karnataka has maximum species richness for trees.
2. Arunachal Pradesh has maximum species richness for shrubs.
3. Jammu & Kashmir has maximum species richness for herbs.



Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- As per the India state of forest report-2019, all the given options are correct.

Refer: <http://164.100.117.97/WriteReadData/userfiles/ISFR2019%20Vol-I.pdf>

60. Consider the following statements with reference to India state of forest report-2019:

1. Dependence of fuelwood on forests is highest in the State of Maharashtra.
2. For fodder, small timber and bamboo, dependence is highest in Odisha.
3. 40% of the forest cover of the country is highly to extremely fire prone.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Dependence of **fuelwood** on forests is highest in the **State of Maharashtra**, whereas, **for fodder, small timber and bamboo, dependence is highest in Madhya Pradesh**. It has been assessed that the annual removal of the small timber by the people living in forest fringe villages is nearly 7% of the average annual yield of forests in the country
- Fire prone forest areas of different severity classes have been mapped. The analysis reveals that **40% of the forest cover of the country is highly to extremely fire prone**.

Refer: <http://164.100.117.97/WriteReadData/userfiles/ISFR2019%20Vol-I.pdf>



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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 8th-Apr-2021

61. With reference to laws and regulations of the Indian media and entertainment industry, Consider the following statements:

1. There is no CBFC (Central Board of Film Certification) certification for T.V programs and serials.
2. Exhibition of uncertified films is an offence under Cinematograph Act.
3. Only certified films should be shown on the Cable TV.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- S1: There is no CBFC certification for T.V programs and serials. However, under Cable Television Network (Regulation) Act, 1995 content code / Advertisement code have been prescribed for programme and advertisements appearing in cable TV Network.
- S2: Exhibition of uncertified films is an offence under Cinematograph Act. It is a cognizable and non-bailable offence. It is not necessary to wait for the local police to initiate action. Being a cognizable offence, any responsible citizen or organization can file a complaint with the police. The police are bound to initiate action on the complaint.
- S3: refer: <https://www.cbfcindia.gov.in/main/faqs.html>

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/08/film-certificate-appellate-tribunal-fcat/>

62. Consider the following statements about the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS)

1. It is an independent judicial body established by United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).
2. The ITLOS's primary purpose is to develop and maintain a comprehensive regulatory framework for shipping.
3. It is based in Hamburg, Germany.

Which of the given above statements is/are not correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation: **here the directive word is not correct!!**

- S1: The **International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea** (ITLOS) is an independent judicial body established by the 1982 **United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea**.
- S2: It has jurisdiction over any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention, and over all matters specifically provided for in



any other agreement which confers jurisdiction on the Tribunal. Disputes relating to the Convention may concern the delimitation of maritime zones, navigation, conservation and management of the living resources of the sea, protection and preservation of the marine environment and marine scientific research.

- S3: The tribunal is based in **Hamburg, Germany**.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/08/centre-seeks-nod-to-close-italian-marines-case/>

63. Consider the following statements:

1. The Reserve Bank of India manages and services Government of India Securities but not any State Government Securities.
2. Treasury bills are issued by the Government of India and there are no treasury bills issued by the State Governments.
3. Treasury bills offer are issued at a discount from the par value.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- S1: G-Secs are issued through auctions conducted by RBI.
 - Floatation of State Government Loans (State Development Loans): As per the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, the RBI may, by agreement with any State Government undertake the management of the public debt of that State.
 - Accordingly, the RBI has entered into agreements with 29 State Governments and one Union Territory (UT of Puducherry) for management of their public debt.
- S2: In India, the Central Government issues both, treasury bills and bonds or dated securities while the State Governments issue only bonds or dated securities, which are called the State Development Loans (SDLs). Treasury Bills (T-bills) Treasury bills or T-bills, which are money market instruments, are short term debt instruments issued by the Government of India and are presently issued in three tenors, namely, 91 day, 182 day and 3.64 day.
- S3: Treasury bills are zero coupon securities and pay no interest. They are issued at a discount and redeemed at the face value at maturity.
 - For example, a 91 day Treasury bill of 100/- (face value) may be issued at say 98.20, that is, at a discount of say, 1.80 and would be redeemed at the face value of 100/-.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/08/g-sap-securities-acquisition-plan-for-market-boost/>

64. Consider the following statements:

1. The Wildlife Protection Act empowers the Central Government to permit and regulate cultivation of opium poppy for medical and scientific purposes.



2. In India, the State governments notifies the tracts where opium cultivation can be licensed as well as the General Conditions for issuance of license every year.
3. Each field of every cultivator of opium poppy is individually measured by officers of the Revenue Department of the Finance Ministry to ensure that they do not exceed the licensed area.

Which of the given above statements is/are not correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **here the directive word is not correct!!**

- India is one of the few countries that legally grow opium poppy and the only country which legally produces opium gum. Opium poppy (*Papaver somniferous*) plant is the source of opium gum which contains several indispensable alkaloids such as morphine, codeine and thebaine. Morphine is the best analgesic in the world. In case of extreme and excruciating pain such as that of terminally ill cancer patients, nothing alleviates the suffering except morphine. Codeine is commonly used in manufacture of cough syrups.
- **S1: The NDPS Act empowers the Central Government to permit and regulate cultivation of opium poppy for medical and scientific purposes.**
- **S2: The Government of India notifies the tracts where opium cultivation can be licensed as well as the General Conditions for issuance of license every year.** These notifications are commonly referred to as Opium Policies. Opium cultivation is permitted in the notified tracts in the states of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. The General Conditions, among others, include a Minimum Qualifying Yield (MQY) to be tendered by the cultivators of each of these three states, to be eligible for license in the succeeding year.
- **The Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN), Gwalior (Madhya Pradesh) under the Narcotics Commissioner issues licenses to the farmers to cultivate opium poppy.**
- **S3: Each field of every cultivator is individually measured by officers of the CBN to ensure that they do not exceed the licensed area.** The cultivators are required to tender their entire opium produced to the CBN and they are paid a price at the rates decided by the Government. The CBN sets up weighing centres during the harvest season and the cultivators bring their opium to these centres and tender the opium to the CBN.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/08/govt-mulling-ways-to-boost-yield-from-poppy/>

65. Consider the following statements:

1. In tropical regions, dengue virus disease is transmitted by the same mosquito that transmits Zika.
2. Sexual transmission of dengue virus disease is possible.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2



(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- S1: Zika virus is transmitted to people primarily through the bite of an infected Aedes species mosquito (Ae. aegypti and Ae. albopictus). These are the same mosquitoes that spread dengue and chikungunya viruses.
- S2: read here>> <https://academic.oup.com/jtm/article/26/3/tay157/5259064>

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/08/device-to-diagnose-dengue-within-an-hour/>

66. With reference to 'Imprint India' initiative, consider the following statements:

1. It is a flagship initiative set up by All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE).
2. It is aimed at bridging the gap between scientific knowledgebase created through fundamental and applied research.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **About IMPRINT India:**

- The initiative, 'IMPRINT India', is a pan-IIT and IISc joint collaboration to **develop a blueprint for research of immediate relevance to society** requiring innovation, direct scientific research into identified areas, ensure higher funding support for research into these areas and measure outcomes of the research efforts with reference to the impact on the standard of living in rural/urban areas.
- IMPRINT scheme was **launched in November, 2015** with a view to **providing solutions to the most relevant engineering challenges by translating knowledge into viable technology (products or processes) in 10 selected technology domains**, namely health care, energy, sustainable habitat, nano-technology hardware, water resources and river systems, advanced materials, Information and Communication Technology, manufacturing, security and defence, and environmental science and climate change.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/08/device-to-diagnose-dengue-within-an-hour/>

67. Consider the following statements:

1. India is the world's third biggest emitter of greenhouse gases.
2. The carbon neutrality goal does not figure in the 2015 Paris Agreement.
3. The Paris Agreement is a legally binding international treaty on climate change.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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



Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- S1: Net-zero, which is also referred to as carbon-neutrality, does not mean that a country would bring down its emissions to zero. Rather, **net-zero is a state in which a country's emissions are compensated by absorption and removal of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere.**
- S2: The net-zero goal does not figure in the 2015 Paris Agreement, the new global architecture to fight climate change.
- S3: The Paris Agreement is a **legally binding international treaty on climate change.** [more>>](#)

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/08/what-is-net-zero-and-what-are-indias-objections/>

68. Consider the following statements:

1. The World Health Organization (WHO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations responsible for international public health.
2. World Health Organization is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.
3. The theme for World Health Day 2021 is to support nurses and midwives.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- S3: **World Health Day:**
 - 7th April is observed as World Health Day.
 - The day is observed to mark **the formation of the World Health Organisation (WHO) on this day in 1948.**
 - **Theme:** "Building a fairer, healthier world for everyone".
- S2: WHO is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, with six semi-autonomous regional offices and 150 field offices worldwide.
- S1: The World Health Organization (WHO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations responsible for international public health.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/08/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-8-april-2021/>

69. Madhu Kranti portal is an initiative of the:

- (a) NITI Aayog
- (b) Central Silk Board
- (c) Khadi and Village Industries Commission
- (d) National bee Board

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **Madhu Kranti portal:**

- Madhu Kranti portal is an initiative of the National Bee Board (NBB), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare under the National Beekeeping & Honey Mission (NBHM).



- This portal is being developed for online registration to achieve traceability source of honey and other beehive products on a digital platform.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/08/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-8-april-2021/>

70. Red sea is a seawater inlet of the Indian Ocean, lying between Africa and Asia. The countries bordering the Red Sea are

1. Saudi Arabia
2. Somalia
3. Eritrea
4. Ethiopia
5. Yemen

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Eastern shore: **Saudi Arabia. Yemen.**
- Western shore: **Egypt. Sudan. Eritrea. Djibouti.**



Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/08/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-8-april-2021/>

RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 9th-Apr-2021

71. Consider the following statements regarding Ad hoc Judge of supreme court:

1. The President can appoint a judge of a High Court as an ad hoc judge of the Supreme Court for a temporary period.
2. The judge so appointed should be qualified for appointment as a judge of the Supreme Court.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?



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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Ad hoc Judge:** When there is a lack of quorum of the permanent judges to hold or continue any session of the Supreme Court, the Chief Justice of India can appoint a judge of a High Court as an ad hoc judge of the Supreme Court for a temporary period. He can do so only after consultation with the chief justice of the High Court concerned and with the previous consent of the president. The judge so appointed should be qualified for appointment as a judge of the Supreme Court. It is the duty of the judge so appointed to attend the sittings of the Supreme Court, in priority to other duties of his office. While so attending, he enjoys all the jurisdiction, powers and privileges (and discharges the duties) of a judge of the Supreme Court.
- **Retired Judge:** At any time, the chief justice of India can request a retired judge of the Supreme Court or a retired judge of a high court (who is duly qualified for appointment as a judge of the Supreme Court) to act as a judge of the Supreme Court for a temporary period. He can do so only with the previous consent of the president and also of the person to be so appointed. Such a judge is entitled to such allowances as the president may determine. He will also enjoy all the jurisdiction, powers and privileges of a judge of Supreme Court. But he will not otherwise be deemed to be a judge of the Supreme Court.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/09/appointment-of-ad-hoc-judges/>

72. Consider the following statements:

1. The judges of the Supreme Court are appointed by the Collegium.
2. A distinguished jurist is eligible to become a judge of the Supreme Court with final approval of the President.
3. To become a judge of the Supreme Court, the person should not exceed 65 years of age.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Who appoints judges to the SC?
 - In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (2) of Article 124 of the Constitution of India, the appointments are made by the President of India.
- The names are recommended by the Collegium.
- **Eligibility to become a Supreme Court judge:**
 - The norms relating to the eligibility has been envisaged in the Article 124 of the Indian Constitution.



- To become a judge of the Supreme court, an individual should be an Indian citizen.
- In terms of age, a person should not exceed 65 years of age.
- The person should serve as a judge of one high court or more (continuously), for at least five years or the person should be an advocate in the High court for at least 10 years or a distinguished jurist.
- **Is the collegium's recommendation final and binding?**
 - The collegium sends its final recommendation to the President of India for approval. The President can either accept it or reject it. In the case it is rejected, the recommendation comes back to the collegium. If the collegium reiterates its recommendation to the President, then he/she is bound by that recommendation.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/09/appointment-of-ad-hoc-judges/>

73. The term 'SARTHAQ' is sometimes mentioned in the news with reference to:

- (a) increase technology adoption in higher education
- (b) plan for school education in India
- (c) skill management information system in India
- (d) strategic reforms programme in the domain of skill development

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Recently, the education minister released an indicative and suggestive **implementation plan for school education** called **SARTHAQ**.
- **What is 'Students' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement through Quality Education or SARTHAQ?**
 - Launched in pursuance of the goals of NEP2020 and to assist States/UTs in this task.
 - The programme aims at providing an all-around development for the students at the primary and secondary level.
 - It will also establish a safe, secure, inclusive and conducive learning environment for students as well as teachers.
 - The major focus is to define activities in such a manner which clearly delineate goals, outcomes and timeframe i.e., it links recommendation of NEP with 297 Tasks along with responsible agencies, timelines and 304 outputs of these tasks."

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/09/sarthaq/>

74. Consider the following statements with reference to Messenger RNA (mRNA):

1. It is a single-stranded RNA molecule.
 2. It is created during the process of transcription.
 3. The existence of mRNA was first suggested by James Watson and Francis Crick.
- Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:



- S3: The existence of mRNA was first suggested by **Jacques Monod and François Jacob**, and was subsequently discovered by **Jacob, Sydney Brenner** and **Matthew Meselson** at the California Institute of Technology in 1961.
- S2: mRNA is created during the process of **transcription**, where an enzyme converts the gene into primary transcript mRNA (also known as pre-mRNA).
 - **Transcription** is the process of copying a gene from the DNA into mRNA.
- S1: In molecular biology, messenger RNA (mRNA) is a single-stranded molecule of RNA that corresponds to the genetic sequence of a gene, and is read by a ribosome in the process of synthesizing a protein.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/09/double-mutant-strain-named-b-1-617/>

75. Consider the following statements about African Swine Fever (ASF):

1. It is a mosquito-borne viral infection.
 2. It is not a threat to human health and cannot be transmitted from pigs to humans.
- Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **African swine fever** is a highly contagious and deadly viral disease affecting both domestic and feral **swine** of all ages.
- **ASF** is not a threat to human health and cannot be transmitted from pigs to humans.
- **ASF** is found in countries around the world, particularly in sub-Saharan **Africa**.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/09/african-swine-fever/>

76. Consider the following statements about National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development:

1. It is one of the four All India Financial Institutions regulated and supervised by the Reserve Bank of India.
2. It is one of the premier agencies providing developmental credit in rural areas.
3. It has launched the 'Udyami Mitra' Portal to improve accessibility of credit and handholding services to MSMEs.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- S1: List of AIFIs:
 - Export - Import Bank of India (Exim Bank)
 - National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)
 - Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)
 - National Housing Bank (NHB)



- S2: It is one of the premier agencies providing developmental credit in rural areas. NABARD is India's specialised bank for Agriculture and Rural Development in India.
- S3: SIDBI has launched the 'Udyami Mitra' Portal to improve accessibility of credit and handholding services to MSMEs.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/09/rbi-extends-fresh-support-of-%e2%82%b950000-cr-to-nabard/>

77. Consider the following statements about Archaeological Survey of India (ASI):

1. It was founded in 1851 by William Jones.
2. It regulates Antiquities and Art Treasure Act, 1972.
3. One of the main activities of the Archaeological Survey of India was to collect the old manuscripts of India.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- S1: ASI was founded in 1861 by Alexander Cunningham who also became its first Director-General.
- S2 & S3: The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), under the Ministry of Culture, is the premier organization for the archaeological researches and protection of the cultural heritage of the nation. Maintenance of ancient monuments and archaeological sites and remains of national importance is the prime concern of the ASI. Besides it regulate all archaeological activities in the country as per the provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958. It also regulates Antiquities and Art Treasure Act, 1972.
- **Gyanvapi Mosque:**
 - A local court in Varanasi has directed the **Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)** to conduct a survey of the Gyanvapi Mosque, adjacent to the Kashi Vishwanath Temple, to find out whether it was a "superimposition, alteration or addition or if there is structural overlapping of any kind, with any other religious structure".
- **What's the issue?**
 - The order came on a petition demanding restoration of the land on which the Gyanvapi Mosque stands to the Hindus, claiming that Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb had pulled down parts of the old Kashi Vishwanath Temple to build the mosque.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/09/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-9-april-2021/>

78. Consider the following statements regarding the Kolleru Lake:

1. It lies between the Godavari and Mahanadi river deltas.
2. Recently, it has been removed from list of Ramsar Wetland sites.
3. It is identified as an "Important Bird Area" of India by the Bombay Natural History Society.



Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Kolleru, one of the largest **freshwater lakes in India, (it was designated a sanctuary in October 1999) is situated between the Krishna and West Godavari districts of the state.**
- Kolleru is one of the most important wetlands of India. The lake supports 200 species of birds, including the critically endangered Spoon-billed Sandpiper, (Kolleru committee report 2010).
- Kolleru was accorded a sanctuary status under the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972. **Currently, it covers an area of 308 sq km. It was designated a Ramsar site in 2002. It was also identified as an "Important Bird Area" of India by the Bombay Natural History Society.**

Refer: <https://www.downtoearth.org.in/blog/environment/kolleru-wildlife-sanctuary-faces-threats-52211>

79. Consider the following statements:

1. The Ken River originates in the state of Madhya Pradesh.
2. Ken River passes through Panna tiger reserve.
3. Betwa River is a tributary of Ken River.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **The Ken River, is one of the major rivers of the Bundelkhand region of central India, and flows through two states, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. It is a tributary of the Yamuna. It passes through Panna tiger reserve.**
- **The Betwa is a river in Northern India, and a tributary of the Yamuna.** It rises in the Vindhya Range just north of Hoshangabad in Madhya Pradesh and flows north-east through Madhya Pradesh and Orchha to Uttar Pradesh. Nearly half of its course, which is not navigable, runs over the Malwa Plateau.

Refer: <https://www.financialexpress.com/infrastructure/ken-betwa-link-project-indias-first-river-interlinking-project-to-quench-the-thirst-of-parched-bundelkhand/2225288/>

80. Consider the following statements

1. The Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) is an intergovernmental agency that is organized under the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).
2. India is a member state of Nuclear Energy Agency.
3. India has capacity to produce 20,000 MW of electricity from nuclear installations

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

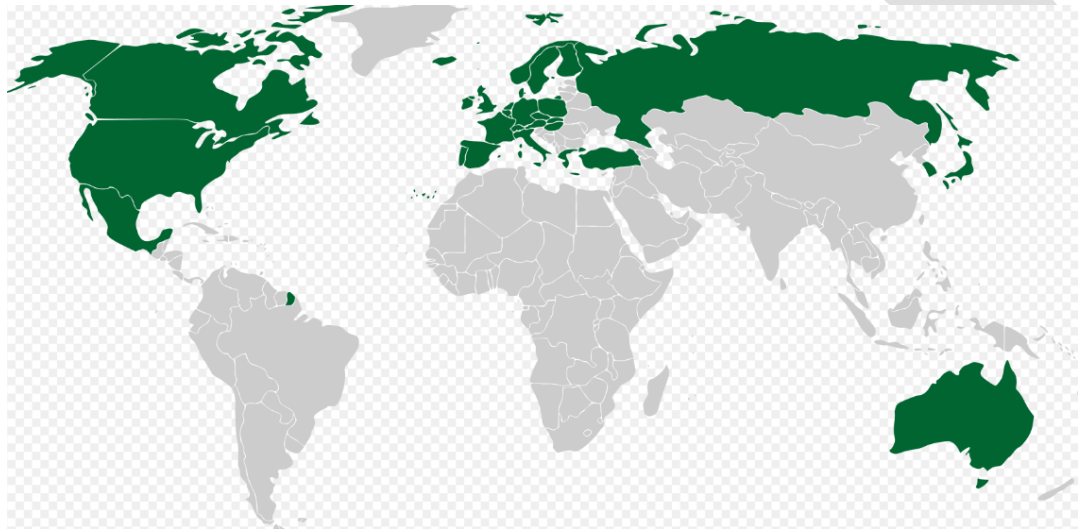


- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 2 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- The Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) is a specialised agency within the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), an intergovernmental organisation of industrialised countries, based in Paris, France.



- India is not a member state of Nuclear Energy Agency
- India has around 22 nuclear reactors in operation in 7 nuclear power plants, having a total installed capacity of around 7000 MW.

Refer: <https://www.oecd-neo.org/> <https://www.world-nuclear.org/information-library/country-profiles/countries-g-n/india.aspx>



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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 10th-Apr-2021

81. Consider the following statements regarding the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991:

1. It was enacted to freeze the status of all places of worship in the country as it was in 1991.
2. It will not apply to ancient and historical monuments and archaeological sites and remains that are covered by the AMASR Act 1958.
3. It manifests the secular values of the Constitution and strictly prohibits retrogression.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- S1: The Act says that no person shall convert any place of worship of any religious denomination into one of a different denomination or section. **It contains a declaration that a place of worship shall continue to be as it was on August 15, 1947.**
- S2: **The 1991 Act will not apply in some cases.** It will not apply to ancient and historical monuments and archaeological sites and remains that are covered by the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958. It will also not apply to any suit that has been finally settled or disposed of, any dispute that has been settled by the parties before the 1991 Act came into force, or to the conversion of any place that took place by acquiescence.
 - The Act specifically exempted from its purview the place of worship commonly referred to as Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid in Ayodhya. It was done to allow the pending litigation to continue as well as to preserve the scope for a negotiated settlement.
- S3: In the 2019 **Ayodhya verdict**, the Constitution Bench led by former Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi referred to the law and said **it manifests the secular values of the Constitution and strictly prohibits retrogression.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/10/places-of-worship-act-1991/>

82. Which of the following rights are available to Indian citizens as well as foreigners residing in Indian Territory?

1. Prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth.
2. Protection of the six fundamental rights of freedom mentioned in article 19.
3. Protection of personal life and liberty.
4. Prohibition of traffic in human beings and forced labour.
5. Freedom of conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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



Ans: (c)

Explanation: **Fundamental rights available to both citizens and foreigners except enemy aliens**

- Equality before law and equal protection of laws (Article 14).
- Protection in respect of conviction for offences (Article 20).
- **Protection of life and personal liberty (Article 21).**
- Right to elementary education (Article 21A).
- Protection against arrest and detention in certain cases (Article 22).
- **Prohibition of traffic in human beings and forced labour** (Article 23).
- Prohibition of employment of children in factories etc., (Article 24).
- **Freedom of conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion (Article 25).**
- Freedom to manage religious affairs (Article 26).
- Freedom from payment of taxes for promotion of any religion (Article 27).
- Freedom from attending religious instruction or worship in certain educational institutions (Article 28).

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/10/sc-turns-down-release-of-rohingya-in-jammu/>

83. Consider the following statements:

1. Diplomatic relations between India and Bhutan were established in 1947.
2. West Bengal shares border with Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan.
3. Diphu Pass is a mountain pass around the area of the disputed tri-point borders of India, China, and Bhutan.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- S1: Diplomatic relations between **India and Bhutan were established in 1968** with the appointment of a resident representative of India in Thimphu. Before this our relations with Bhutan were looked after by our Political Officer in Sikkim. The basic framework of India – Bhutan bilateral relations is the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation of 1949 between the two countries, which was updated in February 2007.
- S3 and S2: **Diphu Pass** is a mountain pass around the area of the disputed tri-point borders of **India, China, and Myanmar**. West Bengal shares border with **Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan**.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/10/bhutan-china-to-schedule-boundary-discussions/>

84. India's Exclusive economic zone (EEZ) is bordered to the east by:

- (a) Thailand
- (b) Myanmar
- (c) Indonesia
- (d) All of the above



Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- An exclusive economic zone (EEZ), as prescribed by the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 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
- India's EEZ is bordered to the west by **Pakistan**, to the south by the **Maldives** and **Sri Lanka** and to the **east by Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia**.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/10/freedom-of-navigation-operation-fonop/>

85. With reference to India's Panna Tiger reserve, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is spread over two districts.
2. It is the first tiger reserve in India to officially introduce a mascot – 'Bhoorsingh the barasingha'.
3. Ken River passes through Panna tiger reserve.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- S1: Panna National Park is a national park located in Panna and Chhatarpur districts of Madhya Pradesh in India.
- S2: **Kanha tiger reserve** is now the first in India to have an **official mascot – 'Bhoorsingh the barasingha'**. The barasingha or swamp deer is the state animal of Madhya Pradesh and is found only in the Kanha tiger reserve, across Mandla and Balaghat districts.
- S3: Congress president Sonia Gandhi has written to Union environment minister Prakash Javadekar, asking him not to implement **the Ken-Betwa river linking project**. It is because **Panna Tiger reserve** will be damaged by the river linking project. The state government's open estimate is that around 40 per cent of the area of the tiger reserve will be irretrievably damaged.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/10/ken-betwa-project/>

86. With reference to India's Panna Tiger reserve, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It forms the northern most tip of the natural teak forests.
2. It forms the eastern most tip of the natural Kardhai forests.
3. It is dotted with two thousand year-old rock paintings.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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



Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Situated in the Vindhyan mountain range in the northern part of Madhya Pradesh, Panna Tiger Reserve is spread over the Panna and Chhatarpur districts. The terrain here consists of extensive plateaus and gorges. This reserve contains the last remaining tiger habitat of North Madhya Pradesh.
- S1 and S2: It forms the northern most tip of the **natural teak forests** and the eastern most tip of the natural ***Anogeissus pendula* (Kardhai) forests**.
- S3: **Rock Art in Panna - What does it mean to the people who live there?**
 - <https://www.leidenanthropologyblog.nl/articles/rock-art-in-panna>

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/10/ken-betwa-project/>

87. Consider the following statements regarding NanoSniffer:

1. It is a microsensor based explosive trace detector.
2. It can detect explosives in less than 10 seconds.
3. It has been designed and developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **NanoSniffer:**

- It is a **microsensor** based **explosive trace detector**.
- It is the world's first microsensor based Explosive Trace Detector (ETD) developed by **NanoSniff Technologies**, an **IIT Bombay incubated startup**.
- NanoSniffer 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.
- NanoSniffer can detect explosives in **less than 10 seconds** and it also identifies and categorizes explosives into different classes.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/10/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-10-april-2021/>

88. Consider the following statements:

1. The Jerdon's Courser found only in the State of Andhra Pradesh, India
2. The Himalayan quail found only in the mountains of Uttarakhand in north-west Himalayas.
3. The Himalayan serows found only in the Trans Himalayan region.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:



- S1: Jerdon's Courser (*Rhinoptilus bitorquatus*) is a nocturnal cursorial bird found only in the **State of Andhra Pradesh, India**. It is one of the world's rarest bird species and is classified as **Critically Endangered (CR)** by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).
 - Bird known **only from Eastern Ghats**.
 - It inhabits open patches within scrub-forest. [More>>](#)
- S2: The **Himalayan quail is native to India, found only in the mountains of Uttarakhand in north-west Himalayas**. The last sightings recorded before 1877 were from Mussourie and Nainital hill stations, suggesting that they prefer higher altitudes. They are known to inhabit long grass and scrubs on steep hillsides, particularly south facing slopes between the altitudes of 1,650 and 2,400 metres. [More>>](#)
- S3: **Himalayan serows are herbivores**, and are typically found at altitudes between 2,000 metres and 4,000 metres (6,500 to 13,000 feet). They are known to be **found in eastern, central, and western Himalayas**, but **not in the Trans Himalayan region**. [More>>](#)

Refer: <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/its-a-goat-its-a-pig-its-a-serow-explaining-an-unusual-sighting-in-the-spiti-cold-desert-7105007/>

89. With reference to India's Biodiversity, what are 'Hypnea indica and Hypnea Bullata', sometimes mentioned in the news:

- Critically endangered mammals
- High yielding rice varieties
- Seaweed species
- Invasive plant species

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Two new red algal seaweed species**, which can be a potential raw material for those involved in jelly and ice cream production, have been discovered along India's coastline.
- Both varieties—**Hypnea indica and Hypnea Bullata**—were discovered in Kanyakumari. The fine and hairy algae *Hypnea indica* was discovered in Shivrajpur and Somnath Pathan in Gujarat, whereas *Hypnea Bullata* grew along the coastline of Daman and Diu.

Refer: <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/two-new-seaweed-species-discovered-along-indias-coastline-7250122/>

90. Recently, our scientists have discovered a new species of wild Sun Rose which has unique features such as a tuberous root, no hair in its leaf axils, a reddish pink flower, prolate-shaped fruits, and copper brown seeds without lustre. In which part of India has it been discovered?

- Western Himalayas
- Western Ghats
- Eastern Himalayas
- Eastern Ghats

Ans: (d)

Explanation:



- Botanists have discovered a new species of **wild Sun Rose** from the **Eastern Ghats in India**. The new species, named ***Portulaca laljii***, discovered from Prakasam district of Andhra Pradesh has unique features such as a tuberous root, no hair in its leaf axils, a reddish pink flower, prolate-shaped fruits, and copper brown seeds without lustre. These morphological features distinguish the species from other species of genus *Portulaca*.

Refer: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/new-species-of-sun-rose-found-in-the-eastern-ghats/article33424396.ece>

RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 11th-Apr-2021

91. Consider the following statements about Jyotirao Phule:

1. He formed the "New Dispensation" along with his followers, to attain equal rights for people from exploited castes.
2. The title of 'Mahatma' was bestowed on Phule by Dhondo Keshav Karve in 1888.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- S1: **Keshub Chandra Sen** founded a syncretic "New Dispensation" inspired by Christianity, and Vaishnav bhakti, and Hindu practices.
- S2: Phule is regarded as an important figure in the social reform movement in Maharashtra. He was bestowed with the **honorific Mahatma** title by Maharashtrian social activist **Vithalrao Krishnaji Vandekar in 1888**.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/12/jyotirao-phule-2/>

92. Which part of the constitution of India speaks of state's responsibility to provide social security to the citizens of this country?

- (a) Directive Principles of State policy
- (b) Fundamental Rights
- (c) Preamble
- (d) All of the above

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- As per the Census 2011, the total number of beggars in India is 4,13,670 and the number has increased from the last census.
- The government has the mandate to **provide social security to everyone** and ensure that all had basic facilities, as embedded in the **Directives Principles of State Policy in the Constitution**. However, the presence of beggars is evidence that the state has failed to provide these basic facilities to all its citizens.
- **Article 43 of the Indian Constitution speaks of state's responsibility to provide social security to the citizens of this country.**
- **The social security strategies in India include the following:**



- Social insurance with the participation of the beneficiary pooling risks and resources.
- Social assistance financed from general revenues and granting benefits on the basis of means test.
- Employers liability schemes where there is an identifiable employer and within the economic capacity of the employer.
- National Provident Funds.
- Universal schemes for social security.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/12/plea-to-decriminalise-begging/>

93. With reference to Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

1. Religious faith is a part of the fundamental right to privacy.
2. The Centre and States were obligated under Article 46 to protect the SC/ST community from social injustice and other forms of exploitation.
3. The fundamental right under Article 25 of the Constitution subject to public order, morality and health.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- All the above statements are correct, [read more: People are free to choose religion: Supreme Court](#)

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/12/people-are-free-to-choose-religion-sc/>

94. Consider the following statements:

1. Indian Ocean humpback dolphins are listed as “Vulnerable” by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).
2. Ganges River Dolphin are listed as “Endangered” by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).
3. Indus River Dolphin are listed as “Critically Endangered” by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Which of the statements given above is / are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- All above species are listed as “Endangered” by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).
- Indus River Dolphin: <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/41757/17628296>
- Ganges River Dolphin: <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/41756/17627639>
- Irrawaddy Dolphin: <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/15419/123790805>



- Indian Ocean Humpback Dolphin:
<https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/82031633/82031644>

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/12/dolphin-boom-in-odishas-chilika-lake/>

95. Consider the following pairs:

<i>Wildlife</i>	<i>Naturally found in</i>
1. Irrawaddy Dolphin	Chambal River
2. Humpback Dolphins	Cauvery River
3. Bottlenose Dolphins	Brahmaputra River

Which of the pairs given above is/are not correctly matched?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **here the directive word is not correct!!**

- All of the above pairs are not correctly matched.
- Irrawaddy dolphins** are found in coastal areas in South and Southeast Asia, and in three rivers: the Ayeyarwady (Myanmar), the Mahakam (Indonesian Borneo) and the Mekong.
- Indo-Pacific Bottlenose dolphins:** Lives in the waters around India, northern Australia, South China, the Red Sea, and the eastern coast of Africa.
- Indian Ocean Humpback dolphins** occurs within the Indian Ocean from South Africa to India.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/12/dolphin-boom-in-odishas-chilika-lake/>

96. The 'Doomsday Glacier' is located in:

- (a) Acratic
- (b) Antarctica
- (c) South America
- (d) Europe

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **Doomsday Glacier:**

- Also called the Thwaites Glacier, **it is located in Antarctica.**
- The melting of this glacier has long been a cause of concern because of its high potential of speeding up the global sea level rise happening due to climate change.
- It is 120 km wide at its broadest. Because of its size (1.9 lakh square km), it contains enough water to raise the world sea level by more than half a metre.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/12/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-12-april-2021/>

97. Consider the following statements:

- Anthrax is an infectious disease caused by bacteria.
- Plague is an infectious disease caused by virus.



3. Brucellosis is an infectious disease caused by protozoan parasites.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- S1: **Anthrax** is a serious infectious illness caused by the microbe **Bacillus anthracis**.
- S2: **Plague** is an infectious disease caused by **Yersinia pestis bacteria**, usually found in small mammals and their fleas.
- S3: **Brucellosis** is a zoonotic infection caused by the **bacteria** of the **genus Brucella**.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/12/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-12-april-2021/>

98. Consider the following statements about River Umngot:

- 1. It is a river in Assam.
- 2. It acts as a natural boundary between Jaintia and Khasi hills, before finally flowing into Bangladesh.
- 3. It is considered to be India's clearest river.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **Umngot:**

- It is a river in **Meghalaya**.
- It is considered to be **India's clearest river**.
- The river attracts many tourists to Dawki bordering Bangladesh.
- The river is the natural boundary between **Ri Pnar (of Jaintia Hills) with Hima Khyrim (of Khasi Hills)**.
- **Why in News?**
 - There is a stiff resistance from at least 12 villages in Meghalaya on a 210 MW hydroelectric project on Umngot.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/12/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-12-april-2021/>

99. Recently, there was a growing awareness in our country about the importance of Himalayan trillium (*Trillium govanianum*) because it is found to be a sustainable source of-

- (a) Anti-aging agent
- (b) Jet biofuel
- (c) Bio pesticide
- (d) Textile fabrics



Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- The **Himalayan trillium** (*Trillium govanianum*), a common herb of the Himalayas was declared '**endangered**' by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) last week.
- In recent years, the plant has become one of the most traded commercial plants of the Himalayan region, due **to its high medicinal quality**. It has been used in traditional medicine to cure diseases like dysentery, wounds, skin boils, inflammation, sepsis, as well as menstrual and sexual disorders. Recent experiments have shown that the rhizome of the herb is a source of steroidal saponins and can be used as an **anti-cancer and anti-aging agent**. This increased its market value and has now become an easy target for poachers.

Refer: <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/overexploitation-long-life-cycle-have-endangered-a-common-himalayan-herb/article33373173.ece>

100. Consider the following statements about Indian bison:

1. It is a medium size wild cattle found in some parts of western and south India.
2. It has been listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List.
3. It is the state animal of Goa and Bihar.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- S1: India is proud to be the sole home to The **Indian Bison of Gaur** which is the **largest and the tallest in the family of wild cattle**, even bigger than water buffalo and bison.
- S2: Since 1986, the IUCN has listed the **Indian Bison as vulnerable** because of the declining population. Nowadays, this animal is kept well – protected in some of the famous national parks of India like Nagarhole, Bandipur, Kabini, Masinagudi and BR Hills.
- S3: The gaur is the state animal of Goa and Bihar.

Refer: <https://www.indiatoday.in/cities/pune/story/wild-bison-strays-into-pune-residential-area-1748105-2020-12-09>

RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 14th-Apr-2021

101. With reference to 'Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD)' sometimes mentioned in the news while forecasting Indian monsoon, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. IOD phenomenon is characterized by a difference in sea surface temperature between tropical Western Indian Ocean and tropical Eastern Pacific Ocean.
2. An IOD phenomenon can influence an El Nino's impact on the monsoon.
3. A positive IOD is associated with droughts in Southeast Asia and Australia.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:



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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Statement 1: The IOD, also known as the Indian Niño, is an irregular oscillation of sea-surface temperatures in which the western Indian Ocean becomes alternately warmer and then colder than the eastern part of the Indian ocean (not tropical eastern pacific ocean).
- Statement 2: IOD has a much more significant effect on the rainfall patterns in south-east Australia than the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) in the Pacific Ocean as shown in several recent studies.
- S3: A positive IOD is associated with droughts in Southeast Asia and Australia.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/14/skymet-forecasts-a-healthy-normal-monsoon/>

102. Consider the following statements about Election Commission

1. The Constitution has prescribed the qualifications of the members of the Election Commission.
2. The Constitution has specified the term of the members of the Election Commission as 6 years or until they attain the age of 65 years.
3. The Constitution has debarred the retiring election commissioners from further appointment by the government.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **here the directive word is incorrect!!**

- Though the constitution has sought to safeguard and ensure the independence and impartiality of the Election Commission, some flaws can be noted, viz.,
- The Constitution has not prescribed the qualifications (legal, educational, administrative or judicial) of the members of the Election Commission.
- The Constitution has not specified the term of the members of the Election Commission.
- The Constitution has not debarred the retiring election commissioners from any further appointment by the government.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/14/chief-election-commissioner/>

103. Consider the following statements:

1. The Register of Indigenous Inhabitants of Nagaland (RIIN) is the master list of all indigenous inhabitants of Nagaland.
2. The RIIN list is generated through house-to-house enumeration during the “house-listing” phase of the census 2021.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only



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

Ans: (a)

Explanation: What is RIIN?

- Launched in July 2019.
- The objective is to prevent outsiders from obtaining fake indigenous certificates for seeking jobs and benefits of government schemes.
- The RIIN will be the master list of all indigenous inhabitants of the state.
- The RIIN list will be based on “an extensive survey”.
- It will involve official records of indigenous residents from rural and (urban) wards and would be prepared under the supervision of the district administration.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/14/register-of-indigenous-inhabitants-of-nagaland-riin-2/>

104. Consider the following statements about World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE):

1. It is an international non-governmental organization.
2. It is recognised as a reference organisation by the World Trade Organization (WTO).
3. It is working on wildlife trade in the context of both biodiversity conservation and sustainable development.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **About the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE):**

- The need to fight animal diseases at global level led to the creation of the Office International des Epizooties through the international Agreement signed on January 25th 1924.
- In May 2003 the Office became the World Organisation for Animal Health but kept its historical acronym OIE.
- The OIE is the **intergovernmental organisation** responsible for improving animal health worldwide.
- It is recognised as a **reference organisation** by **the World Trade Organization (WTO)**.
- The organisation is placed under the authority and control of a World Assembly of Delegates consisting of Delegates designated by the Governments of all Member Countries.
- **The main objective of the OIE is to control epizootic diseases and thus to prevent their spread.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/14/who-urges-halt-on-sale-of-live-wild-mammals-in-markets/>

105. Consider the following statements:

1. White rhinos are the largest of the rhino species.



2. Black rhinos are listed as “Critically Endangered” on the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species.
3. One-horned rhinoceros is naturally found in India only.

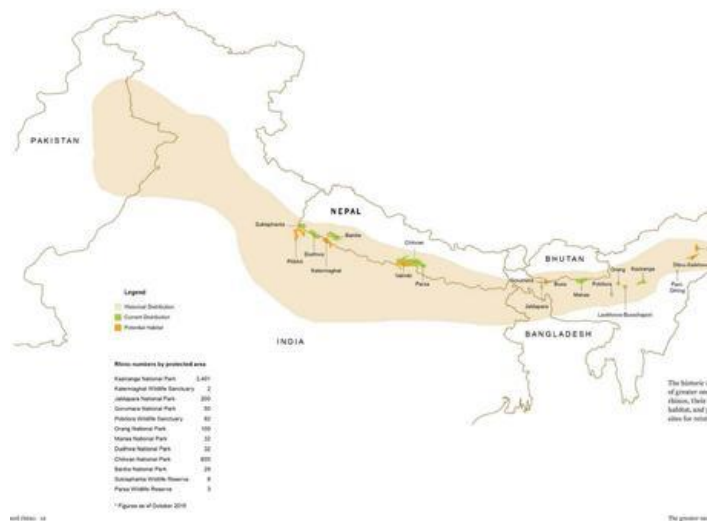
Which of the statements given above is / are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- S2: Black rhinos are listed as “Critically Endangered” on the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species. [More>>](#)
- S1 and S3 : The greater one-horned rhino (or “Indian rhino”) is the largest of the rhino species. [More>>](#) (IUCN: vulnerable)



- S1: White rhinos <https://www.worldwildlife.org/species/white-rhino>

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/14/indian-rhino-vision-2020-irv-2020/>

106. Consider the following pairs:

Tradition	State
1. Magh Bihu	Assam
2. Phool Dei	Bihar
3. Garia Puja	Orissa

Which of the above given pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- S2: **Phool Dei is Uttarakhand's traditional harvest festival**, which is celebrated with great enthusiasm across the state each year.
- S3: **Garia puja is a festival of Tripura, India**. It is held on the seventh day of the month of Vaishakha.



- S1: **What is Uruka?**
 - Uruka” marks the beginning of the Magh Bihu.
 - ‘Uruka’ rituals are performed on the occasion of Rongali Bihu, marking the beginning of the Assamese New Year.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/14/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-14-april-2021/>

107. What is “Seroja”, sometimes seen in the news?

- (a) An Israeli radar system
- (b) A Chinese aircraft carrier
- (c) An American anti-missile system
- (d) None of the above

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Seroja:**
- It is a tropical cyclone formed recently near western Australian coast.
- The name Seroja means lotus in Indonesian.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/14/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-14-april-2021/>

108. Recently, the term ‘e-SANTA’ was coined for the web portal, it is a/an/the:

- (a) digital seva platform launched for common residents
- (b) electronic marketplace for aqua farmers
- (c) platform for booking and allotment of government residential accommodations
- (d) platform for promoting investment in the country

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **e-SANTA:**

- It is an electronic marketplace providing a **platform to connect aqua farmers and the buyers.**
- Launched by Union Commerce Ministry.
- It will enable the farmers to get a better price and the exporters to directly purchase quality products from the farmers enhancing traceability, a key factor in international trade.
- The term e-SANTA was coined for the web portal, meaning Electronic Solution for Augmenting NaCSA farmers’ Trade in Aquaculture.
- e-SANTA will ‘RAISE’ the lives & income of farmers by: Reducing Risk, Awareness of Products & Markets, Increase in Income, Shielding Against Wrong Practice and Ease of Processes.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/14/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-14-april-2021/>

109. In which of the following state is Maguri Motapung Beel wetland is located?

- (a) Assam
- (b) Arunachal Pradesh
- (c) Meghalaya
- (d) Nagaland

Ans: (a)



Explanation:

- **Maguri Motapung Beel** is less than 10 km south of the more famous **Dibru-Saikhowa National Park and part of the Dibru-Saikhowa Biosphere Reserve**.
- The wetland derives its name from '**Magur**', **local word for the catfish Clarius batrachus**, once found here in abundance. **Motapung** is a village nearby, and **Beel** is **the Assamese word for wetland**.
- **Significance:**
 - It was declared an **Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA)** in **1996**.
 - **Important species: Golden Mahaseer, vulnerable species** (like the Swamp Francolin and the Marsh Babbler), **two endangered** (Greater Adjutant and Pallas's Fish-eagle) and **six critically endangered** (like Baer's Pochard, Red-headed Vulture and White-bellied Heron).
- **Location:**
 - This reserve **connects the national park in Assam to Namdapha National Park in Arunachal Pradesh**, creating a big wildlife corridor of immense importance in **the Indo-Burma Biodiversity Hotspot**.
 - The reserve is located within **the Brahmaputra's floodplains**, and is limited by **the Lohit river** in the north and **the Dibru in the south**.
- **Why in News?**
- This wetland is 500m away from the oil well that exploded on June 9.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/07/20/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-20-july-2020/>

110. Consider the following statements:

1. There are several species of serows and all of them are found in Asia.
2. Himalayan serows are herbivores and are typically found in the Himalayan region at altitudes between 2,000 metres and 4,000 metres.
3. Himalayan Serows are not found in the Trans Himalayan region.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Why in news?**
 - A Himalayan serow has been sighted for the first time in **the Himalayan cold desert region**.
- S1: There are several species of serows, and all of them are found in Asia. The Himalayan serow, or *Capricornis sumatraensis* thar, is restricted to the Himalayan region. Taxonomically, it is a subspecies of the mainland serow (*Capricornis sumatraensis*).
- S2 and S3: **Himalayan serows** are **herbivores**, and are typically found at altitudes between 2,000 metres and 4,000 metres (6,500 to 13,000 feet). They are known to be found in eastern, central, and western Himalayas, **but not in the Trans Himalayan region**.



Refer: <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/its-a-goat-its-a-pig-its-a-serow-explaining-an-unusual-sighting-in-the-spiti-cold-desert-7105007/>

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 15th-Apr-2021

111. With reference to outcomes of Jallianwala Bagh Tragedy, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Rabindranath Tagore and Mahatma Gandhi, as a sign of condemnation of Jallianwala Bagh massacre, renounced their British Knighthood.
2. Disorders Inquiry Committee was set up to investigate the Jallianwala Bagh Tragedy.
3. Aftermath of the massacre, General Dyer was removed from command and exiled to Britain.
4. In 1922, the infamous Rowlett Act was repealed by the British.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- S1: **Rabindranath Tagore and Mahatma Gandhi**, as a sign of condemnation, renounced their **British Knighthood** and **Kaiser-i-Hind medal** respectively.
- S2: The Jallianwala Bagh massacre was followed by establishment of a **non-official enquiry committee**. The 7 member **Hunter Committee** which was set up to investigate the Jallianwala Bagh Tragedy was also known as Disorders Inquiry Committee.
- S3: Considered the **'The Butcher of Amritsar'** in the aftermath of the massacre, **General Dyer was removed from command and exiled to Britain**.
- S4: In 1922, the infamous Rowlett Act was repealed by the British.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/15/jallianwala-bagh-massacre/>

112. Consider the following statements about the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP):

1. The RCEP came into force in May 2020 without India.
2. It is the world's largest trading agreement, covering the 10 ASEAN nations, China, Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- The RCEP came into force in November 2020 without India and is the world's largest trading agreement, covering the 10 ASEAN nations, China, Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand.
- India withdrew from the RCEP largely because of concerns it would open it up to Chinese goods amid an already wide trade imbalance with China, and the failure of the agreement to adequately open up to services.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/15/regional-comprehensive-economic-partnership-rcep-pact/>



113. What is “S-400 Triumf missile system”, sometimes seen in the news?

- (a) A Russian radar system
- (b) India’s indigenous anti-missile programme
- (c) An American anti-missile system
- (d) A Russian designed long-range surface-to-air missile system

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The S-400 Triumf, (NATO calls it SA-21 Growler), is a **mobile, surface-to-air missile system (SAM) designed by Russia**. It is the most dangerous operationally deployed modern long-range SAM (MLR SAM) in the world, considered much ahead of the US-developed Terminal High Altitude Area Defense system (THAAD).
- The system can engage all types of aerial targets including aircraft, unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV and ballistic and cruise missiles within the range of 400km, at an altitude of up to 30km.
- The system can track 100 airborne targets and engage six of them simultaneously.
- The S-400 Triumf air defence system integrates a multifunction radar, autonomous detection and targeting systems, anti-aircraft missile systems, launchers, and command and control centre. It is capable of firing three types of missiles to create a layered defence.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/15/india-russia-committed-to-s-400-deal/>

114. Consider the following statements about the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO):

1. It is an intergovernmental military alliance between 30 European and North American countries.
2. It constitutes a system of collective defence whereby its independent member states agree to mutual defence in response to an attack by any external party.
3. Its headquarters are located in Washington, D.C., United States of America.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- NATO is an intergovernmental military alliance between 30 European and North American countries.
- The organization implements the North Atlantic Treaty that was signed on 4 April 1949.
- NATO constitutes a system of collective defence whereby its independent member states agree to mutual defence in response to an attack by any external party. NATO’s Headquarters are located in Haren, Brussels, Belgium, while the headquarters of Allied Command Operations is near Mons, Belgium.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/15/nato-to-exit-afghanistan-along-with-u-s/>

115. With reference to India economy, consider the following :

1. Bank rate
2. Open market operations
3. Public debt
4. Public revenue

Which of the above is/are component/components of Monetary Policy?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Public debt and Public revenue are matters falling under Fiscal policy. The Ministry of Finance handles these subjects.
- Bank rate and OMOs fall within the jurisdiction of RBI's monetary policy.
- **What is Public Debt?**
 - Public debt is the total amount borrowed by the government of a country.
 - In the Indian context, public debt includes the total liabilities of the Union government that have to be paid from the Consolidated Fund of India. It excludes liabilities contracted against Public Account.
- **Sources of Public Debt:**
 - Dated government securities or G-secs
 - Treasury Bills or T-bills
 - External Assistance
 - Short term borrowings

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/15/indias-public-debt-level-among-highest-in-emerging-economies/>

116. Which one of the following had envisaged that debt-to-GDP ratio of 40 per cent for the central government and 20 per cent for states and aiming for a total of 60 per cent general government debt-to-GDP?

- (a) Dr. Bimal Jalan Committee
- (b) PJ Nayak Committee
- (c) Ratan Watal Committee
- (d) NK Singh Committee

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The NK Singh Committee on FRBM had envisaged a debt-to-GDP ratio of 40 per cent for the central government and 20 per cent for states aiming for a total of 60 per cent general government debt-to-GDP.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/15/indias-public-debt-level-among-highest-in-emerging-economies/>

117. The Mettur-Sarabanga lift irrigation project is on which of the following river?

- (a) Mahanadi River



- (b) Godavari River
- (c) Krishna River
- (d) None of the above

Ans: (d)

Explanation: About the Project:

- Being implemented by Tamil Nadu Government.
- The project is aimed at irrigating 4,200 acres of land in Edappadi, Omalur, Sankagiri and Mettur taluks, diverting surplus water from Mettur reservoir through 100 tanks, lakes and ponds.
- This project is aimed to divert surplus floodwater from **Mettur Dam** to the **Sarabanga River** in Salem, through lift irrigation technique.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/15/mettur-sarabanga-lift-irrigation-project/>

118. Recently, the government of India launched a mobile app, MANAS (Mental Health and Normalcy Augmentation System) to promote mental wellbeing across age groups. It is endorsed as a national program by the:

- (a) NITI Aayog
- (b) Directorate General Of Health Services
- (c) Indian Council of Medical Research
- (d) Prime Minister's Science, Technology, and Innovation Advisory Council

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **MANAS app launched:**
- MANAS App is a well-being App that stands for **Mental Health and Normalcy Augmentation System**.
- It is endorsed as a national program by the Prime Minister's Science, Technology, and Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC).
- MANAS is a comprehensive, scalable, and national digital wellbeing platform and an app developed to augment the mental well-being of Indian citizens.
- MANAS App integrates the health and wellness efforts of various government ministries, scientifically validated indigenous tools with gamified interfaces developed/researched by various national bodies and research institutions.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/15/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-15-april-2021/>

119. What is "Monkeydactyl", sometimes seen in the news?

- (a) a flying machine
- (b) a flying mammal
- (c) a flying reptile
- (d) a disinfecting agent

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **What is Monkeydactyl?**
 - It is a **flying reptile** with the 'oldest opposable thumbs'.
 - The new pterosaur fossil was discovered in the Tiaojishan Formation of Liaoning, China, and is believed to be 160 million years old.



- It has been named Kunpengopterus antipollicatus, also dubbed “Monkeydactyl”.
- The pterosaur species were reptiles, close cousins of dinosaurs and the first animals after insects to evolve powered flight.
- Background:
 - Opposability of the thumb is being able to “simultaneously flex, abduct and medially rotate the thumb” in a way that one is able to bring the tip of the thumb to touch the tips of the other fingers. Along with humans, some ancient monkeys and apes also had opposable thumbs.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/15/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-15-april-2021/>

120. What is “Narrow-Line Seyfert 1 (NLS1)”, sometimes seen in the news?

- (a) a newly discovered white-dwarf star
- (b) an extrasolar planet with a mass higher than Earth
- (c) a newly discovered active galaxy
- (d) none of the above

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **Narrow-Line Seyfert 1 (NLS1) galaxy:**

- It is a newly discovered active galaxy identified as the farthest gamma-ray emitting galaxy that has so far been stumbled upon.
- This active galaxy is about 31 billion light-years away.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/15/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-15-april-2021/>

RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 16th-Apr-2021

121. The ‘State of World Population Report’ was released by which of the following?

- (a) Population Matters
- (b) Partners in Population and Development
- (c) United Nations Population Fund
- (d) International Organization for Migration

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Recently, The United Nations Population Fund’s (UNFPA) Flagship State of World Population Report 2021 titled ‘My Body is My Own’ was launched.
- This is the first time a United Nations report has focused on bodily autonomy.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/16/unfpas-population-report/>

122. Consider the following statements:

1. The Collegium of judges is the Supreme Court’s invention.
2. The Second Judges Case (1993) introduced the Collegium system, holding that “consultation” really meant “concurrence”.
3. High Court judges are recommended by a Collegium comprising the Chief Justices of India (CJI) and two senior-most judges.
4. The Collegium recommends the transfer of Chief Justices of High Court and other judges.



5. In matters of transfers, the opinion of the CJI “is determinative”, and the consent of the judge concerned is not required.

Which of the statements above given is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- S4 and S5: the Collegium also recommends the transfer of Chief Justices and other judges. Article 222 of the Constitution provides for the transfer of a judge from one High Court to another. When a CJ is transferred, a replacement must also be simultaneously found for the High Court concerned. There can be an acting CJ in a High Court for not more than a month. In matters of transfers, the opinion of the CJI “is determinative”, and the consent of the judge concerned is not required. However, the CJI should take into account the views of the CJ of the High Court concerned and the views of one or more SC judges who are in a position to do so. All transfers must be made in the public interest, that is, “for the betterment of the administration of justice”.
- S3: High Court judges are recommended by a Collegium comprising the CJI and two senior-most judges.
- S2: The Second Judges Case (1993) introduced the Collegium system, holding that “consultation” really meant “concurrence”. It added that it was not the CJI’s individual opinion, but an institutional opinion formed in consultation with the two senior-most judges in the Supreme Court.
- S1: The Collegium of judges is the Supreme Court’s invention. It does not figure in the Constitution, which says judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts are appointed by the President and speaks of a process of consultation. In effect, it is a system under which judges are appointed by an institution comprising judges.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/16/centre-to-push-judges-appointments/>

123. Consider the following statements:

1. The Government of India launched the ‘Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) Scheme’ by making amendments to Citizenship Act, 1955 in 2014.
2. As per the recent government notification, the Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cardholders are required to carry their old passport with them to fly to India.
3. Individuals who do not have citizenship of any other country are not eligible to gain an OCI status.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:



- S3: Anyone who is applying for OCI card should hold a valid Passport of another country.
 - Individuals who do not have citizenship of any other country are not eligible to gain an OCI status.
 - Individuals whose parents or grandparents hold citizenship of Pakistan and Bangladesh are not eligible to apply.
- S2: People of Indian origin and the Indian diaspora having Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) cards will not have to carry their old, expired passports for travel to India, as was required earlier, according to a government notification.
- S1: Government of India launched the 'Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) Scheme' by making amendments to Citizenship Act, 1955 in 2005.
 - On 09 January 2015, the Government of India discontinued the PIO card and merged it with OCI card.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/16/overseas-citizens-of-india-oci-3/>

124. Consider the following statements about National Startup Advisory Council (NSAC):

1. It is an independent body constituted to give advice on economic and related issues to the Government of India, specifically to the Prime Minister.
2. For administrative, logistic, planning and budgeting purposes, the NITI Aayog serves as the Nodal Agency for the NSAC.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **What is the NSAC?**

- Constituted by the 'Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).
- Its role is to advise the Government on measures needed to build a strong ecosystem for nurturing innovation and startups in the country to drive sustainable economic growth and generate large scale employment opportunities.
- The National Startup Advisory Council will be chaired by the **Minster for Commerce & Industry**.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/16/national-startup-advisory-council-2/>

125. Recently, the Union Home Ministry has restored the 'electronic visa' (e-visa) facility for foreigners from 156 countries who intend to visit India. In this context, consider the following statements:

1. The e-Visa enables the prospective visitor to apply for an Indian Visa from his/her home country online without visiting the Indian Mission.
2. Applicants of the eligible countries/territories may apply online minimum 14 days in advance of the date of arrival with a window of 120 days.
3. Once approved, the applicant receives an email authorizing him/her to travel to India and he/she can travel with a print out of this authorisation.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?



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

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **What is e-visa?**

- The e-Visa enables the prospective visitor to apply for an Indian Visa from his/her home country online without visiting the Indian Mission and also pay the visa fee online. Once approved, the applicant receives an email authorizing him/her to travel to India and he/she can travel with a print out of this authorisation. On arrival, the visitor has to present the authorisation to the immigration authorities who would then stamp the entry into the country.
- An e-visa is provided in five categories — tourist, business, conference, medical, and medical attendant.
- **Under the arrangement, a foreigner can apply online four days prior to travel.**
- After the details are verified, an electronic travel authorisation (ETA) is generated, which has to be presented at the immigration checkpost on arrival.
- Entry through e-visas is allowed only at 28 designated international airports and five major seaports in India.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/16/india-restores-e-visa-for-156-countries/>

126. Consider the following statements about International Court of Justice (ICJ).

1. It is the principal judicial body of the United Nations.
2. It is composed of 15 judges elected to five-year terms of office by the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council.
3. The judges once elected will not eligible for re-election.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- The **International Court of Justice (ICJ)** is the principal judicial body of the UN. Established in 1946 to replace the Permanent Court of International Justice, the ICJ mainly operates under the statute of its predecessor, which is included in the UN Charter.
- It has two primary functions: to settle legal disputes submitted by States in accordance with established international laws, and to act as an advisory board on issues submitted to it by authorized international organizations.
- **Members of the Court:**
- The International Court of Justice is composed of **15 judges elected to nine-year terms** of office by the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council. These organs vote simultaneously but separately. In order to be elected, a candidate must receive an absolute majority of the votes in both bodies. In



order to ensure a measure of continuity, one third of the Court is elected every three years. **Judges are eligible for re-election.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/16/kulbhushan-jadhav-case/>

127. The 'Paris Call for Trust and Security' was in news recently, is associated with which of the following?

- (a) Climate change and food security
- (b) Sustainable development goals
- (c) Threat of global bioterrorism
- (d) Regulation in cyberspace

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **Paris Call for Trust and Security in Cyberspace:**

- Microsoft president Brad Smith has urged India and the U.S. to join the Paris Call for Trust and Security in Cyberspace that now has 75 countries on board to deal with new cybersecurity threats facing the world.
- **The Paris Call for Trust and Security in Cyberspace** is a nonbinding declaration.
- It calls for states, the private sector, and civil society organizations to work together to promote security in cyberspace, counter disinformation, and address new threats endangering citizens and infrastructure.
- The Paris Call was sent in 2018 by the President of the French Republic, Emmanuel Macron, during the Internet Governance Forum held at UNESCO and the Paris Peace Forum.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/16/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-16-april-2021/>

128. In which one of the following State, the Rupi Bhaba Wildlife Sanctuary is located?

- (a) Rajasthan
- (b) Uttara Pradesh
- (c) Himachal Pradesh
- (d) Madhya Pradesh

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Rupi Bhaba Wildlife sanctuary lies on the left bank of River Satluj in the Kinnaur district of Himachal Pradesh.
- Why in News?
 - Himalayan serows has been spotted in the Rupi Bhaba Wildlife Sanctuary, and in the higher reaches of Chamba.

Refer: <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/its-a-goat-its-a-pig-its-a-serow-explaining-an-unusual-sighting-in-the-spiti-cold-desert-7105007/>

129. Consider the following statements about Himalayan serows (*Capricornis sumatraensis* thar):

1. They are listed as 'Vulnerable' by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).
2. They are listed under Schedule I of The Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
3. They are restricted to the Himalayan region.



Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- S3: There are several species of serows, and all of them are found in Asia. The **Himalayan serow**, or *Capricornis sumatraensis* thar, **is restricted to the Himalayan region**. Taxonomically, it is a subspecies of the mainland serow (*Capricornis sumatraensis*).
- S2 and S1: According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Himalayan serows have experienced significant declines in population size, range size and habitat in the last decade, and this is expected to continue due to intensive human impact.
- Previously assessed as 'near threatened', the **Himalayan serow is now been categorised as 'vulnerable' in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species**.
- It is listed under **Schedule I of The Wildlife Protection Act, 1972**, which provides was under absolute protection.

Refer: <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/its-a-goat-its-a-pig-its-a-serow-explaining-an-unusual-sighting-in-the-spiti-cold-desert-7105007/>

130. With reference to marine biodiversity in India, what is special about “zebrafish”, sometimes seen in the news?

- (a) It is arboreal fish and active only for a few weeks during their breeding season.
- (b) It has the power to match the magnetic field of different areas to locate the exact destination.
- (c) It exhibits the fastest known growth rates in any fish.
- (d) It has the unique ability to repair heart muscle.

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Zebrafish – a tiny freshwater fish barely 2-3 cm long can efficiently **regenerate its damaged heart within a short time period**. Found in South Asia, it is a popular aquarium fish, frequently sold under the trade name Danio.
- Zebrafish is a small (2-3 cm long) freshwater fish found in the tropical and subtropical regions. The fish is native to South Asia's Indo-Gangetic plains, where they are mostly found in the paddy fields and even in stagnant water and streams. The fish become adults at three months and survive 2-3 years in a laboratory condition. **This fish's unique characteristics lie in its transparency during its embryonic stages, allowing observing all organs, including beating heart and blood circulation.**

Refer: <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-zebrafish-gene-that-can-promote-heart-regeneration-7074247/>



RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 17th-Apr-2021

131. The article 142 of the Indian Constitution, sometimes seen in news is related to:

- (a) original jurisdiction of the supreme court
- (b) measures taken by the supreme court to do complete justice
- (c) appellate jurisdiction of supreme court in appeals from high courts
- (d) conferment on the supreme court of powers to issue certain writs

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Article 142 “provide(s) a unique power to the Supreme Court, to do “complete justice” between the parties, i.e., where at times law or statute may not provide a remedy, the Court can extend itself to put a quietus to a dispute in a manner which would befit the facts of the case.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/17/plenary-jurisdiction-of-supreme-court/>

132. The ‘Shyamala Gopinath Committee’ was in news recently, is associated with which of the following?

- (a) merger of public sector banks
- (b) disinvestment policy
- (c) licensing of new banks
- (d) regulation of NBFCs

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced the creation of a Standing External Advisory Committee under the chairmanship of **Shyamala Gopinath** for evaluating applications for Universal Banks and Small Finance Banks.
- Read more: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/03/23/panel-to-evaluate-applications-for-universal-banks-small-finance-banks/>

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/17/rbi-gets-applications-for-on-tap-licences/>

133. Consider the following statements regarding International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

1. It was set up as the world’s “Atoms for Peace” organization within the United Nations family.
 2. It serves as an intergovernmental forum for scientific and technical co-operation in the peaceful use of nuclear technology and nuclear power worldwide.
 3. The headquarters of this International Organization is located in Vienna, Austria.
- Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- S3: The IAEA has its headquarters in **Vienna, Austria.**



- S2: The **International Atomic Energy Agency** (IAEA) is an international organization that seeks to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy, and to inhibit its use for any military purpose, including nuclear weapons.
- S1: The IAEA was **created in 1957** in response to the deep fears and expectations generated by the discoveries and diverse uses of nuclear technology. The Agency's genesis was U.S. President Eisenhower's "**Atoms for Peace**" address to the General Assembly of the United Nations on 8 December 1953.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/17/iran-says-it-has-started-enriching-uranium-to-60/>

134. Recently, some scientists have developed a light-reflecting "ultra-white" paint, which they say could negate the need for air conditioning and even reduce carbon emissions, if used on a mass scale. This "ultra-white" paint is made up of which of the following chemical compound?

- Sodium Hypochlorite (NaOCl or NaClO)
- Sodium Nitrate (NaNO_3)
- Calcium Carbonate (CaCO_3)
- Barium Sulphate (BaSO_4)

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- US engineers have created what they are calling the **whitest paint yet**.
- How was it created?
 - The **ultra-white paint** is made up of **barium sulphate**, which makes it more white.
 - The paint can keep surfaces 19 degrees Fahrenheit cooler than their ambient surroundings at night. It can also cool surfaces 8 degrees Fahrenheit below their surroundings under strong sunlight during noon hours.
 - This paint may be the closest equivalent to the blackest black paint called "Vantablack" that is able to absorb up to 99.9 per cent of visible light.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/17/whitest-ever-paint-that-can-reflect-99-per-cent-of-sunlight/>

135. Consider the following statements about fugitive economic offenders law in India:

1. A person can be named a fugitive economic offender for involvement in economic offences involving at least Rs. 50 crore or more
2. The investigating agencies have to file an application in a Special Court under the Prevention of Money-Laundering Act, 2002 for confiscation of properties of the offender.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (b)

Explanation:



- **Definition- Fugitive Economic Offender:**
 - A person can be named an offender under the law if there is an arrest warrant against him or her for involvement in economic offences involving **at least Rs. 100 crore or more** and has fled from India to escape legal action.
- **The procedure:**
 - The investigating agencies have to file an application in a **Special Court** under the **Prevention of Money-Laundering Act** containing details of the properties to be confiscated, and any information about the person's whereabouts.
 - The Special Court will issue a notice for the person to appear at a specified place and date at least six weeks from the issue of notice.
 - Proceedings will be terminated if the person appears. If not the person would be declared as a Fugitive Economic Offender based on the evidence filed by the investigating agencies.
 - The person who is declared as a Fugitive Economic Offender can challenge the proclamation in the High Court within 30 days of such declaration according to the Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/17/u-k-nod-for-extradition-of-nirav-modi/>

136. Consider the following pairs:

- | Events in India | Initiated under the aegis of |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. EatSmart Cities Challenge | Ministry of Health and Family Welfare |
| 2. Transport 4 All Challenge | Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs |
| 3. San-Sadhan Hackathon | Ministry of Education |

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **EatSmart Cities Challenge:**
 - Launched by the **Housing & Urban Affairs Ministry**.
 - The Challenge is envisioned as a competition among cities to recognize their efforts in adopting and scaling up various initiatives under **Eat Right India**.
 - This unique challenge, in partnership with Smart Cities Mission will create an environment of right food practices and habits, strengthen the food safety and regulatory environment, build awareness among the consumers and urge them to make better food choices in India's major cities.
 - The challenge is open to all Smart Cities, capital cities of States/UTs, and cities with a population of more than 5 lakh.
- **Transport 4 All (T4All) Challenge:**
 - Launched by the **Housing & Urban Affairs Ministry** in collaboration with Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP).



- The Challenge aims to bring together cities, citizen groups, and start-ups to develop solutions that improve public transport to better serve the needs of all citizens.
- All the Smart Cities Mission cities, capitals of states and union territories (UTs), and all cities with a population of over 5 lakhs are eligible for the Challenge.
- **San-Sadhan' Hackathon:**
 - 'San-Sadhan' Hackathon is an initiative to ease lives of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) by making toilets smarter, more accessible, and easier to use. In this hackathon, the government is looking for smart, scalable and innovative solutions for economical toilets for individual and community use in rural and urban contexts.
 - The initiative is being organized jointly by the **Ministry of Jal Shakti and the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities**, in collaboration with Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and 91springboard.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2019/08/23/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-23-august-2019/>

137. The 'Gender Samvaad' event, a joint attempt between the DAY-NRLM and the IWWAGE, was organized under the aegis of:

- (a) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- (b) Ministry of Women and Child Development
- (c) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- (d) Ministry of Rural Development

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **Gender Samvaad:**

- **Gender Samvaad event**, a joint attempt between **DAY-NRLM** and the **Initiative for What Works to Advance Women and Girls in the Economy (IWWAGE)** to create a common platform to share experiences emerging from this effort, was organised by the **Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India**.
- The attempt is to generate greater awareness on gender related interventions under DAY-NRLM across the country and best practices, with a focus on hearing voices from the states and the field.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2019/08/23/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-23-august-2019/>

138. Consider the following statements:

1. Bioluminescence is the property of a living organism to produce and emit light.
2. Some animals, plants, fungi and bacteria show bioluminescence.
3. Bioluminescent organisms are usually found in the ocean environments.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:



- **Bioluminescence is the property of a living organism to produce and emit light.**
- “Animals, plants, fungi and bacteria show bioluminescence,” said Samantha Karunarathna, mycologist from the Kunming Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences, who was part of the team that discovered the mushroom.
- “Bioluminescent organisms are usually found in the ocean environments, but they are also found on terrestrial environments. The colour of the light emitted by the organism depends on their chemical properties.”
- **Why in news?**
 - The new species — named **Roridomyces phyllostachydis** a bioluminescent — or light emitting — **variety of mushroom**— was first sighted on a wet August night near a stream in **Meghalaya’s Mawlynnong in East Khasi Hills** district and later at Krang Shuri in West Jaintia Hills district.

Refer: <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/mystery-of-meghalayas-glowing-green-mushrooms-7059942/>

139. Consider the following statements about Himalayan brown bear (*Ursus arctos isabellinus*):

1. It is one of the largest carnivores in the highlands of Himalayas.
2. It is naturally found in India and Pakistan only.
3. It listed as 'Vulnerable' by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

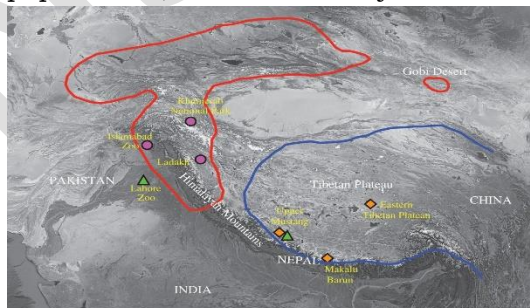
Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- S3: It is '**Endangered**' in the Himalayas and **Critically Endangered** in the Hindu Kush.
- S1 and 2: The Himalayan brown bear is **one of the largest carnivores** in the highlands of Himalayas. It occupies the higher reaches of the Himalayas in remote, mountainous areas of **Pakistan and India**, in small and isolated populations, and is extremely rare in many of its ranges.



Refer: <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/study-predicts-massive-habitat-decline-for-the-himalayan-brown-bear-by-2050-due-to-climate-change/article32935974.ece>



140. With reference to India's Biodiversity, Indian Jezebel, Orange Oakleaf and Krishna Peacock are-

- (a) Nematoda
- (b) Annelida
- (c) Arthropoda
- (d) Mollusca

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Butterflies belong to the **phylum Arthropoda** and belong to the **class Insecta**.
- **Arthropods** are a motley crew: cockroaches, crabs, **butterflies**, beetles, centipedes, scorpions, shrimp, spiders, lobsters, lice, ticks, termites, potato bugs, and sea monkeys (a.k.a., brine shrimp) — they're all examples of **arthropods**.
- **Why in news?**
 - A citizen poll to identify the national butterfly concluded with three species garnering the highest number of votes.
- **Krishna Peacock (Papilio krishna), Indian Jezebel (Delias eucharis), and Orange Oakleaf (Kallima inachus)**, the frontrunners, have unique features such as ability to camouflage as a dead leaf, exhibit iridescence to stave off predators, and aid farmers in getting rid of pests.

Refer: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/3-contenders-for-national-butterfly-status/article32816575.ece>



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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 19th-Apr-2021

141. With reference to cultural history of India, consider the following statements :

1. Sri Ramanujacharya is the chief proponent of Vishishtadvaita subschool of Vedanta.



2. Sri Ramanujacharya was initiated into bhakti spirituality by the poet-saint Sundaramurti.

3. Siant Chokhamela and Sri Ramanujacharya are contemporaries.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **About Sri Ramanujacharya:**
 - Born in 1017 CE in Tamil Nadu.
 - He is the most respected Acharya in the philosophy of **Sri Vaishnavism**.
 - He was also referred to as **Ilaya Perumal** which means the radiant one.
 - His philosophical foundations for devotionism were influential to the Bhakti movement.
 - He is famous as the chief proponent of **Vishishtadvaita** subschool of Vedānta.
 - He wrote influential texts, such as bhāṣya on the Brahma Sutras and the Bhagavad Gita, all in Sanskrit.
- S2: Ramanuja's guru was **Yādava Prakāśa**, a scholar who was a part of the more ancient Advaita Vedānta monastic tradition. Sri Vaishnava tradition holds that Ramanuja disagreed with his guru and the non-dualistic Advaita Vedānta, and instead followed in the footsteps of Tamil Alvārs tradition, the scholars Nāthamuni and Yamunāchārya.
- S3: **Chokhamela was a saint in Maharashtra**, India in the **14th century**. He belonged to the Mahar caste, one of the untouchable castes in India. He wrote many **Abhangas**. He was one of the first low-cast poets in India.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/19/sri-ramanujacharya/>

142. Consider the following statements:

1. A Uniform Civil Code is one that would provide for one law for the entire country, applicable to all religious communities in their personal matters.
2. Article 44 is one of the Directive Principles of State Policy is not enforceable by any court but the principles laid down therein are fundamental in governance.
3. The duty of the state is greater in other directive principles than in Article 44 of the Constitution of India.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- S1: A Uniform Civil Code is one that would provide for one law for the entire country, applicable to all religious communities in their personal matters such as marriage, divorce, inheritance, adoption etc.



- S2: **Article 44 is one of the Directive Principles of State Policy.** These, as defined in Article 37, **are not justiciable (not enforceable by any court)** but the principles laid down therein are fundamental in governance.
- S3: Article 43 mentions “state shall endeavour by suitable legislation”, while the phrase “by suitable legislation” is absent in Article 44. All this implies that **the duty of the state is greater in other directive principles than in Article 44.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/19/goas-civil-code/>

143. Consider the following statements:

1. World Heritage Sites are designated by UNESCO for having cultural, historical, scientific or other form of significance.
2. Each World Heritage Site remains part of the legal territory of the UNESCO.
3. At present, India has 38 World Heritage Properties.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- What is a World Heritage site?
 - A World Heritage site is classified as a natural or man-made area or a structure that is of international importance, and a space which requires special protection.
 - **S1:** These sites are officially recognised by the UN and the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation, also known as UNESCO.
 - UNESCO believes that the sites classified as World Heritage are important for humanity, and they hold cultural and physical significance.
- Key facts:
 - The list is maintained by the international World Heritage Programme administered by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee, composed of 21 UNESCO member states which are elected by the General Assembly.
 - **S2:** Each World Heritage Site remains part of the legal territory of the state wherein the site is located and UNESCO considers it in the interest of the international community to preserve each site.
 - To be selected, a World Heritage Site must be an already classified landmark, unique in some respect as a geographically and historically identifiable place having special cultural or physical significance.
- **S3:** At present, India has 38 World Heritage Properties. Besides, India has 42 sites listed under Tentative List which is a pre-requisite condition for inscription as World Heritage Site.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/19/international-day-for-monuments-and-sites/>

144. The ‘National Climate Vulnerability Assessment’ report is released by which of the following?

- (a) India Meteorological Department



- (b) Indian Space Research Organisation
- (c) Department of Science and Technology
- (d) National Disaster Management Authority

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The **Department of Science and Technology** has released a report titled '**The Report Climate Vulnerability Assessment for Adaptation Planning in India Using a Common Framework**'.
- **Key findings of the report:**
 - It has identified Jharkhand, Mizoram, Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Assam, Bihar, Arunachal Pradesh, and West Bengal as states highly vulnerable to climate change.
 - These states, mostly in the eastern part of the country, require prioritization of adaptation interventions.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/19/national-climate-vulnerability-assessment/>

145. Consider the following statements:

1. According to a report by Germanwatch (environmental NGO), India is the second largest emitter of Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂) in the world.
2. The Flue-gas desulfurization (FGD) systems have been used to limit the release of sulfur dioxide (SO₂) from coal-fired power plants.
3. The largest source of SO₂ in the atmosphere is the burning of stubble in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- S1: India is the largest emitter of anthropogenic sulphur dioxide in the world, as per the data released by environmental NGO Greenpeace on August 19, 2019.
- S2: **What is flue gas desulphurisation?**
 - Removal of Sulfur Dioxide is called as Flue-gas Desulphurization (FGD).
 - It seeks to remove gaseous pollutants viz. SO₂ from exhaust flue gases generated in furnaces, boilers, and other industrial processes due to thermal processing, treatment, and combustion.
- S3: The largest source of SO₂ in the atmosphere is the **burning of fossil fuels** by power plants and other industrial facilities.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/19/sulphur-dioxide-from-caribbean-volcano-reaches-india-wmo-confirms/>

146. A team of scientists have discovered India's first bat species with disk-shaped sticky feet in which of the following state?

- (a) Kerala
- (b) Arunachal Pradesh
- (c) Meghalaya
- (d) Nagaland



Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Meghalaya has yielded **India's first bamboo-dwelling bat with sticky discs**.
- The disc-footed bat (*Eudiscopus denticulus*) was recorded in Meghalaya's **Lailad area** near **the Nongkhyllem Wildlife Sanctuary**, about 1,000 km west of its nearest known habitat in Myanmar.
- The disc-footed bat has raised Meghalaya's bat count to 66, the most for any State in India. It has also helped add a genus and species to the bat fauna of India.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/19/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-19-april-2021/>

147. Recently, a desert known as "Cholistan" appear in the news in the context of the events related to:

- (a) trophy hunting
- (b) tree planting initiative
- (c) shooting of critically endangered birds
- (d) new oil discovery

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **Cholistan desert:**

- Located in Pakistan.
- The place was in news because of recent shooting of two Great Indian Bustards (GIBs) here.
- The GIB, which is the State bird of Rajasthan, is considered India's most critically endangered bird.
- The GIB's population of less than 100 in Rajasthan accounts for 95% of its total world population.
- The International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), 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 in the survival of these large birds.
- The wildlife authorities in Rajasthan had permitted captive breeding of GIB, protected under the Wildlife Protection Act, in Rajasthan's Desert National Park (DNP) through a project executed by the Dehradun-based Wildlife Institute of India in 2019 after a prolonged debate.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/19/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-19-april-2021/>

148. Consider the following statements about the Great Indian Bustard:

1. It is among the heaviest of the flying omnivorous bird.
2. It is listed as endangered on the IUCN Red List.
3. It is protected under Wildlife Protection Act 1972 of India.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)



Explanation:

- S1: The great Indian bustard is **omnivorous**. Also it is large bird with a horizontal body and long bare legs, giving it an ostrich like appearance, this bird is among the **heaviest of the flying birds**.
- **IUCN status: critically endangered.**
- Listed in Schedule I of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and in the CMS Convention and in Appendix I of CITES.
- Identified as one of the species for the recovery programme under the Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats of the Ministry of Environment and Forests.
- Project Great Indian Bustard — state of Rajasthan — identifying and fencing off bustard breeding grounds in existing protected areas as well as provide secure breeding enclosures in areas outside protected areas.
- Protected areas: Desert National Park Sanctuary — Rajasthan, Rollapadu Wildlife Sanctuary – Andhra Pradesh and Karera Wildlife Sanctuary– Madhya Pradesh.
- Habitats in India:
 - Only two districts in Rajasthan — Jaisalmer and Barmer — have a breeding GIB population in the wild. The bird can also be found in very small numbers in Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/19/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-19-april-2021/>

149. With reference to India's Desert National Park, which of the following statements are correct?

1. It is spread over two districts.
2. There is no human habitation inside the Park.
3. It is one of the natural habitats of Great Indian Bustard.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- S1: Situated in Jaisalmer and Barmer districts of Indian state Rajasthan.
- S2: This is clearly incorrect. A national park can have human habitation.
- S3: This is common knowledge.

Refer: UPSC CSE 2020

150. Which one of the following National Parks has a climate that varies from tropical to subtropical, temperate and arctic?

- (a) Khangchendzonga National Park
- (b) Nandadevi National Park
- (c) Neora Valley National Park
- (d) Namdapha National Park

Ans: (d)

Explanation:



- Namdapha National Park is the largest protected area in the Eastern Himalaya biodiversity hotspot and is located in Arunachal Pradesh in Northeast India.
- The area is also known for extensive Dipterocarp forests, comprising the north-western parts of the ecoregion of Mizoram-Manipur-Kachin rain forests.
- The habitat changes with increasing altitude from tropical moist forests to Montane forests, temperate forests and at the higher elevations, to Alpine meadows and perennial snow.
- The park has extensive bamboo forests and secondary forests in addition to the primary forests.

Refer: UPSC CSE 2015

RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 20th-Apr-2021

151. Which of the following religions is/are associated with Khajuraho temples?

1. Hinduism
2. Jainism
3. Tantricism
4. Buddhism

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- There are many temples at Khajuraho, most of them devoted to Hindu gods. There are some Jain temples as well as a Chausanth Yogini temple, which is of interest. Predating the tenth century, this is a temple of small, square shrines of roughly-hewn granite blocks, each dedicated to esoteric deities or goddesses associated with the rise of Tantric worship after the seventh century. Several such temples were dedicated to the cult of the yoginis across Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and even as far south as Tamil Nadu. They were built between the seventh and tenth centuries, but few have survived.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/20/khajuraho-temples/>

152. Consider the following statements about Khajuraho temples.

1. They were developed by Chandela rulers.
2. The temples were made of sandstone.
3. Khajuraho temples has the influence of Dravidian style of temple architecture.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- In the central India, the Chandela rulers developed a distinct style of temple making of their own – known as Khajuraho school or Chandel school.



- In these temples, both the interior and exterior walls were lavishly decorated with carvings.
- The temples were made of sandstone.
- Panchayatan style of temple making was followed. The temples were built on relatively high platform and belong to Hindu as well as Jain religion.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/20/khajuraho-temples/>

153. Recently, the RBI has set up a committee headed by Sudarshan Sen to the review of the working of:

- (a) Co-Operative Banks
- (b) Regional Rural Banks
- (c) Asset Reconstruction Companies
- (d) Development Finance Institutions

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The RBI has set up a committee **headed by Sudarshan Sen** to undertake a comprehensive review of the working of **asset reconstruction companies (ARCs)** in the financial sector ecosystem and recommend suitable measures for enabling them to meet the growing requirements.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/20/rbi-sets-up-committee-to-review-working-of-arcs/>

154. Consider the following statements about the Startup India Seed Fund Scheme (SISFS):

1. It is set up as a Category-II Alternate Investment Fund.
2. It is set up to make infrastructure investments in India by raising capital from domestic and international institutional investors.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **About the Startup seed fund:**

- The Fund aims to provide financial assistance to startups for proof of concept, prototype development, product trials, market entry, and commercialization.
- 945 Crore corpus will be divided over the next 4 years for providing seed funding to eligible startups through eligible incubators across India.
- The scheme is expected to support an estimated 3,600 startups through 300 incubators.
- Nodal Department: Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/20/startup-india-seed-fund-scheme/>

155. Consider the following pairs:

Regions sometimes mentioned in news:	Country
1. Xinjiang	China
2. Havana	USA
3. Rakhine	Myanmar



4. Hanoi Malaysia

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Havana:** read here>> [Cuba after the Castros](#)
- **Hanoi:** read here>> [India offers help to Vietnam in warship- building & maintenance](#)
- **Xinjiang:** Human Rights Watch has appealed to the United Nations to investigate allegations China's government is committing crimes against Uighur Muslims in the Xinjiang region.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/20/probe-china-over-xinjiang-crimes-hrw/>

156. Which of the following space missions are related to the planet Mars?

- 1. China's Chang'e-4 mission
- 2. UAE's Hope mission
- 3. NASA's Perseverance rover mission

Select the correct answer code given below:

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- There are currently 10 spacecraft from five different space agencies — the United States, European Union, India, China, and the United Arab Emirates — either orbiting or on the ground on Mars. Two more rovers — **NASA's Perseverance** and China's **Tianwen-1**
- NASA has a lander (Mars Insight), a rover (Curiosity), and three orbiters (Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter, Mars Odyssey, MAVEN); India has an orbiter (Mangalyaan-1); the EU has 2 orbiters (Mars Express and ExoMars Trace Gas Orbiter); and China and **UAE** will have an orbiter each (**Hope** and Tianwen-1 respectively).

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/20/nasa-mars-helicopter-makes-first-flight-on-another-planet/>

157. Which of the following countries share a land border with Germany?

- 1. Poland
- 2. Austria
- 3. Belgium
- 4. Italy
- 5. Croatia

Select the correct answer using the code below:



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

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **Countries Bordering Germany.**

- Denmark to the north
- Netherlands to the northwest
- Belgium to the west
- Luxemburg to the west-southwest
- France to the southwest
- Switzerland to the south
- Austria to the south southeast
- Czechia to the southeast
- Poland to the east



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/20/india-and-germany-sign-agreement-on-cities-combating-plastic-entering-the-marine-environment/>

158. Consider the following statements regarding Vandhe Bharat mission.

1. Vandhe Bharat mission is the massive repatriation operation by the Indian government to bring back stranded Indians in different parts of the world in the wake of the coronavirus crisis.
 2. 'Operation Samudra Setu' was carried out as part of Vandhe Bharat mission.
- Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **here the directive word is incorrect!!**

- Vandhe Bharat mission is the massive repatriation operation planned by the Indian government to bring back stranded Indians in different parts of the world in the wake of the coronavirus crisis.
- India had dispatched four Naval ships as part of the first phase of Vande Bharat mission.
- The Navy has named its evacuation effort 'Operation Samudra Setu'.



Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/20/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-20-april-2021/>

159. Consider the following statements about Polar vortex.

1. The polar vortex is a large area of high pressure and cold air surrounding the Earth's North and South poles.
2. The polar vortex spins in the stratosphere.
3. During winter in the Northern Hemisphere, the polar vortex will become less stable, sending cold Arctic air southward over the United States.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- The **polar vortex** is a large area of **low pressure and cold air surrounding** the Earth's North and South poles. The term vortex refers to the counter-clockwise flow of air that helps keep the colder air close to the poles.
- The **polar vortex spins in the stratosphere**, a layer of the atmosphere 10-48 km above the ground and above the troposphere, where most familiar weather patterns develop.
- Often **during winter in the Northern Hemisphere**, the polar vortex will become less stable and expand, sending cold Arctic air southward over the United States.

Refer: <https://www.noaa.gov/multimedia/infographic/science-behind-polar-vortex>

160. Consider the following statements about Nitrogen pollution.

1. Since Nitrates cannot penetrate deep into the soil they pollute only surface water and not groundwater.
2. Nitrogen dioxide is a greenhouse gas.
3. Sewage and organic solid wastes form the second largest source of Nitrogen pollution in India.
4. Nitrous oxide (N₂O) is 300 times more potent than carbon dioxide but isn't as prevalent in the atmosphere.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- The Assessment found that nitrates not only affected surface water but also polluted groundwater sources.
- Nitrous oxide (N₂O) gas should not be confused with nitric oxide (NO) or nitrogen dioxide (NO₂). Neither nitric oxide nor nitrogen dioxide are greenhouse gases. Nitrous oxide is a greenhouse gas.
- Sewage and organic solid wastes form the second largest source of N pollution in India.



- Nitrous oxide (N₂O) is 300 times more potent than carbon dioxide but isn't as prevalent in the atmosphere.

Refer: <https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/agriculture/when-n-means-noxious-59279>



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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 21th-Apr-2021

161. Arrange the following islands located in the South China sea in the direction of North to South:

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

Select the correct answer using the code below:

(a) 1-2-3



(b) 1-3-2

(c) 3-1-2

(d) 3-2-1

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **Contesting Claims Over Islands:**

- **The Paracel Islands** are claimed by China, Taiwan and Vietnam.
- **The Spratly Islands** are claimed by China, Taiwan, Vietnam, Brunei and Philippines.
- **The Scarborough Shoal** is claimed by Philippines, China and Taiwan.
- Since 2010, China has been converting uninhabited islets into artificial islets to bring it under **UNCLOS** (For example, Haven Reef, Johnson South Reef and Fiery Cross Reef).



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/21/south-china-sea-dispute-2/>

162. Consider the following statements regarding the 'Bao Forum for Asia' (BFA):

1. It is an intergovernmental organization jointly initiated by China and Australia.
2. It is modelled on the World Economic Forum held annually in Davos, Switzerland.
3. It is committed to promoting regional economic integration and bringing Asian countries even closer to their development goals.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **About the Bao Forum:**

- **S1:** The Boao Forum for Asia was initiated in 2001 by 25 Asian countries and Australia (increased to 28 in 2006). It is a non-profit organisation.
- It has provided a high-end platform for political, business and academic leaders in Asia and the world.
- **S2:** It is modelled on the World Economic Forum held annually in Davos, Switzerland.
- **S3:** The Forum is committed to promoting regional economic integration and bringing Asian countries even closer to their development goals.



- It has made positive contributions to the promotion of regional economic integration, common development and the building of a more prosperous and harmonious Asia.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/21/boao-forum/>

163. The 'Global Youth Mobilization Local Solutions' campaign was in news recently, is related to:

- (a) preventing 'vaccine nationalism'
- (b) combating COVID-19 pandemic
- (c) prevention and mitigation of terrorist attacks
- (d) management of natural disasters

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **Global Youth Mobilization Local Solutions campaign**

- United Nations agencies and youth organisations have come together to launch a campaign **unique campaign to involve the youth of the world in building their lives impacted by the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.**
- It is mandated to fund youth in communities impacted by the pandemic to take up innovative programmes to rebuild lives.
- **It is being supported by six of the world's largest youth organisations:**
 - World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations
 - World Young Women's Christian Association
 - World Organization of the Scout Movement
 - World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts
 - The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
 - The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/21/global-youth-mobilization-local-solutions-campaign/>

164. Consider the following statements about the 'International Space Station' (ISS):

1. It is a habitable artificial satellite in low Earth orbit.
2. It is a multinational collaborative project involving five participating space agencies including Chinese and Russian space agency.
3. It serves as a microgravity and space environment research laboratory.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **About the International Space Station:**

- Launched in **1998** and **involving Russia, the United States, Canada, Japan, and the European Space Agency**, the ISS is one of the most ambitious international collaborations in human history.
- ISS is a modular space station (habitable artificial satellite) in low Earth orbit.
- The ISS serves as a microgravity and space environment research laboratory in which scientific experiments are conducted in astrobiology, astronomy, meteorology, physics, and other fields.
- The ISS circles the Earth in roughly 93 minutes, completing 15.5 orbits per day.



- ISS is the ninth space station to be inhabited by crews, following the Soviet and later Russian Salyut, Almaz, and Mir stations as well as Skylab from the US.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/21/russia-to-launch-its-own-space-station-in-2025/>

165. If you want to see *Platanista gangetica minor* in its natural habitat, which one of the following is the best place to visit?

- (a) Upper Ganga River
- (b) Keoladeo National Park
- (c) Beas Conservation Reserve
- (d) Deepor Beel

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The Indus dolphin, ***Platanista gangetica minor***, is one of two subspecies of **freshwater dolphins** found in the Indian subcontinent. The other, the **Gangetic dolphin, *Platanista gangetica gangetica***, is found in the Ganga-Brahmaputra river basin. The Indus River dolphins, that had “gone extinct in India in the 1930s”, had been “discovered” again in the Beas in 2007.
- **WWF**: WWF-India, in partnership with the Department of Forests and Wildlife Preservation, Punjab conducted the first ever organized Indus River Dolphin Survey in May 2018 across a 185km stretch of the river Beas (**Beas Conservation Reserve**).
- Based on the direct counts, after correcting for dolphins that were missed by the survey, the final estimate of the population of Indus River Dolphins in the Beas River stands at 5 – 11 individuals. Although the population of the species is small, its presence in the Beas River above the Harike barrage for 70 years, indicates no decline in population of the species. The presence of a young calf is also a positive sign and indicates a population that is large enough to be viable.

Refer: <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/less-than-a-dozen-indus-dolphins-remain-in-the-beas/article24531893.ece>

166. Scientists have mapped marine “wilderness” areas around the world for the first time. This team of researchers found that just 13.2% of the world’s oceans could be classed as wilderness. Most of these areas fell within

- (a) The Arctic, Antarctic and around Pacific Island Nations
- (b) The Antarctic and Central Indian Ocean Basin
- (c) The North Pacific Ocean and Central Indian Ocean Basin
- (d) Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **“Wilderness” areas** are **regions minimally impacted by human activities** such as fishing, pollution and shipping. Most such areas are presently found in international waters, away from human populations. It’s a place where the environment and ecosystem is acting in basically an undisturbed way that’s free from human activity.
- Most of the areas the researchers defined as wilderness fell within the Arctic, Antarctic and around Pacific Island nations, or in the open ocean, where human activity is more limited. Despite their conservation status, MPAs appear to host just 4.9% of global marine wilderness.

- Refer: <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/untouched-ocean-habitats-rapidly-shrinking-says-study/article24542162.ece>

- (a) Dramatic warming that ended the most recent glacial period about 11,500 years ago.
- (b) Abrupt cooling, attributed to vast volumes of freshwater from melting glaciers running into the oceans and disrupting ocean currents.
- (c) A mega-drought that crushed a number of civilisations worldwide.
- (d) The beginning of Industrial revolution.

Explanation:

- | Eonothem / Eon | Erathem / Era | System / Period | Series / Epoch | U/L
M
L/E | Stage / Age | GSSP | numerical age (Ma) |
|----------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|------|--------------------|
| Quaternary | | | Holocene | | Meghalayan | ▲▲▲ | present |
| | | | | | Northgrippian | | 0.0042 |
| | | | Pleistocene | | Greenlandian | | 0.0062 |
| | | | | | Upper | | 0.0117 |
| | | | | | Middle | | 0.126 |
| | | | | | Calabrian | ▲ | 0.781 |
| | | | | | Gelasian | ▲ | 1.80 |
| | | | | | Piacenzian | ▲ | 2.58 |
| | | | | | Zanclean | ▲ | 3.60 |
| | | | | | | ▲ | 5.33 |
| | | ▲ | 7.2 | | | | |



Refer: <https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-44868527>

168. Which one of the following statements helps us understand what is known as the 'Wood Wide Web'?

- (a) Trees secretly talk to and share resources with each other.
- (b) Bringing internet connectivity to the remotest places on earth for inclusive and equitable development.
- (c) Some wild spiders can spray webs in one long continuous flow that can reach upto 25m in length.
- (d) None of the above.

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Trees do this using a network of fungi that grow around inside their roots.** The fungi provide the tree with nutrients and in return they receive sugars. Scientists have found that this connection runs far deeper than first thought. By plugging into the fungal network, trees can share resources with each other. The system has been nicknamed the **Wood Wide Web**.
- The relationship between these mycorrhizal fungi and the plants they connect is now known to be ancient (around four hundred and fifty million years old) and largely one of mutualism—a subset of symbiosis in which both organisms benefit from their association.

Refer: <https://www.newyorker.com/tech/elements/the-secrets-of-the-wood-wide-web>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/av/science-environment-44643177/how-trees-secretly-talk-to-each-other>

169. Which of the following statements about moons are incorrect?

1. They can be found in the Goldilocks zone.
2. Most moons start out as dwarf planets or asteroids orbiting their star, only later to be captured by planets with a much stronger gravitational pull.
3. When a large body collided with the early Earth, the resulting debris collected to create our Moon.
4. Several exomoons have been discovered till date.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **The Goldilocks zone** is the region **around a star** where **liquid water can exist at a planet's surface**.
- **BBC**: Most moons are thought to form from the leftover ingredients of their parent planet. In our Solar System, Jupiter's large family of moons likely formed from the accumulation of this material when the planet was young.
- Moons can also start out as dwarf planets or asteroids orbiting their star, only later to be captured by planets with a much stronger gravitational pull. This is thought to be the case for Triton, which orbits backwards around its host planet



Neptune, and may previously have lived in the Kuiper Belt – a distant zone of the Solar System beyond Neptune's orbit.

- Our own Moon formed via a giant impact. When another large body collided with the early Earth, the resulting debris collected to create the Moon.
- [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-40741545): A team of astronomers has potentially discovered the first known moon beyond the Solar System. The signal was detected by Nasa's Kepler Space Telescope; astronomers now plan to carry out follow-up observations with Hubble in October.

Refer: <https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-40741545>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-44605761>

170. Lake Titicaca, one of less than twenty ancient lakes on earth, is situated between

- Paraguay and Argentina
- Uganda and Tanzania
- Peru and Bolivia
- Zambia and Zimbabwe

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Lake Titicaca is the largest freshwater lake in South America** and the **highest of the world's large lakes**. Titicaca is one of less than twenty ancient lakes on earth, and is thought to be there million years old. Lake Titicaca sits 3 810 m above sea level and is situated between **Peru** to the west and **Bolivia** to the east.





RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 22th-Apr-2021

171. Consider the following statements:

1. A Civil Servant cannot be dismissed or removed by any authority subordinate to the authority by which he was appointed.
2. A Government Servant under any circumstances has no Right to Strike, neither morally nor legally.
3. The article 311 is applied only on the Civil Servants in India, and is not available as a remedy to any other person or employee, even if he is associated with the Government of Union, State or any Corporation.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- S1: **Article 311(1)** : It says that a civil servant cannot be dismissed or removed by any authority subordinate to the authority by which he was appointed.
- S2: In the most popular case of **T.R. Rangarajan v. Govt. Of India** the Two Judges Bench of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India held that **a Government Servant under any circumstances has No Right to Strike, neither morally or Legally**, however if they felt aggrieved by any action of the Government or Legislative Organ than they must approached the appropriate Tribunal or Court for seeking remedy regarding the same.
- S3: click here to read>>[Constitutional Remedies And Protection Ensured To Civil Servants In India](https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/22/article-3112c-of-the-constitution/):

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/22/article-3112c-of-the-constitution/>

172. Consider the following statements:

1. The Indian Constitution allows the Chief Justices of the High Courts to appoint retired judicial officers as ad hoc judges for two years
2. The maximum possible strength of the Supreme Court has been fixed at 31 judges, including the Chief Justice of India

Which of the statements above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- S1: "Article 224 A of the Constitution will be invoked to allow the Chief Justices of the High Courts to appoint retired judicial officers as ad hoc judges for two years, up to the age of 65."
- S2: The Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956 originally provided for a maximum of ten judges (excluding the CJI).
 - This number was increased to 13 by the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Act, 1960, and to 17 in 1977.



- The working strength of the Supreme Court was, however, restricted to 15 judges by the cabinet (excluding the chief Justice of India) till the end of 1979. But the restriction was withdrawn at the request of the chief justice of India.
- In 1986, the strength of the top court was increased to 25, excluding the CJI. Subsequently, the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Act, 2009 further augmented the strength of the court from 25 to 30.
- **There are currently 29 judges (including the Chief Justice of India) and maximum possible strength is 34.**
<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/supreme-court-gets-four-new-judges-strength-reaches-34/articleshow/71189846.cms?from=mdr>

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/22/sc-paves-way-for-ad-hoc-judges-in-hcs/>

173. The World Press Freedom Index 2021 has been released by which of the following?

- (a) The New York Times Company
- (b) Daily Journal Corporation
- (c) Reporters Without Borders
- (d) World Press Photo Foundation

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The **World Press Freedom Index** 2021 has been released by the media watchdog group **Reporters Without Borders**.
 - Norway topped the index for the fifth year in a row.
 - The report labelled 132 countries as “very bad”, “bad” or “problematic”.
 - It stated that the pandemic was used as means to deny journalists this access and promote government sponsored propaganda regarding the Covid-19 outbreak.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/22/world-press-freedom-index/>

174. Who is known as the father of banking sector reforms in India?

- (a) Sir Osborne Smith
- (b) Sir Benegal Rama Rau
- (c) Maidavolu Narasimham
- (d) Manmohan Singh

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **Who was M Narasimham?**

- Narasimham was known for being **the chair of two high-powered committees on banking and financial sector reforms**.
- Such is the importance of the two Narasimham Committees that some of their aspects are referred to and employed to this date. For instance, **the idea of bank mergers and creating strong megabanks** was first mooted by the Narasimham Committee.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/22/father-of-banking-reforms-ex-rbi-governor-m-narasimham-passes-away-at-94/>



175. Consider the following statements with reference to Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985:

1. Under the NDPS Act, it is illegal for a person to produce/manufacture/cultivate, possess, sell, purchase, transport, store, and/or consume any narcotic drug or psychotropic substance.
2. Under one of the provisions of the act, the State Governments are empowered to regulate the cultivation, production, manufacture, import, export, sale, consumption, use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation: **Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985:**

- The Act is designed to fulfill India's treaty obligations under **the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, Convention on Psychotropic Substances, and United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.**
- The Act 1985 sets out the statutory framework for drug law enforcement in India.
- Under the Act, the cultivation, production, manufacture, possession, sale, purchase, transportation, warehousing, consumption, inter-State movement, transshipment and import and export of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances is prohibited, except for medical or scientific purposes and in accordance with the terms and conditions of any license, permit or authorization given by the Government.
- **The Central Government is empowered to regulate the cultivation, production, manufacture, import, export, sale, consumption, use etc of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.**
- State Governments are empowered to permit and regulate possession and inter-State movement of opium, poppy straw, the manufacture of medicinal opium and the cultivation of cannabis excluding hashish.
- The Central Government is empowered to declare any substance, based on an assessment of its likely use in the manufacture of narcotics drugs and psychotropic substances as a controlled substance.
- Both the Central Government and State Governments are empowered to appoint officers for the purposes of the Act.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/22/punjab-okays-reward-policy-for-drug-cases/>

176. Why is the recent discovery of the frog species, 'Nasikabatrachus bhupathi', significant?

- (a) It is a keystone species for the ecosystem where it thrives and was thought to have been extinct since early 20th century
- (b) It constitutes additional evidence in favour of the theory of continental drift



- (c) The skin of this frog is coated with a secretion that guards it from the deadly East Asian fungus that has been responsible for the extinction of several amphibian species
- (d) Its presence is an indicator of the presence of the critically endangered peacock tarantula

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **The discovery is significant as it constitutes additional evidence in favour of the theory of continental drift.** The Purple frog is an inhabitant of Seychelles, and the discovery of Bhupathy's purple frog in India suggests that the Indian subcontinent was part of the ancient landmass of Gondwana before splitting from Seychelles 65 million years ago.



Refer: <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/introducing-n-bhupathi-a-frog-with-the-face-of-a-pig/article19541223.ece>

177. 'Gamosa' a ubiquitous, white cotton towel woven with images of endangered turtles to spread the message of conservation, belongs to which of the following state?

- (a) Assam
- (b) Manipur
- (c) Odisha
- (d) Andhra Pradesh

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- Activists are banking on the '**gamosa**', woven with images of endangered turtles, to spread the message.
- The multipurpose **Assamese gamosa**, a ubiquitous, white cotton towel, has been assigned a new function — conservation of rare freshwater turtles.
- Few cultural symbols are as utilitarian as the white handmade cotton *gamosa*, with its characteristic red border of woven motifs. It is valued as a gift for visitors, used as a scarf, anti-dust mask, wrapped around the head as a turban.

Refer: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/turtle-survival-rides-on-handmade-towel-in-assam/article30079620.ece>

178. Which of the following statements is correct regarding 'Bamboonomics'?

- (a) Bamboo plantation in urban areas in order to maintain a sustainable environment and pollution free clean air.
- (b) Promoting Bamboo as an alternative in building construction.



- (c) Encourage bamboo plantation by farmers in private lands.
 (d) A movement to combat desertification and climate change

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **Bamboonomics:**

- It is a movement to **combat desertification and climate change** which will involve the tribal community of India since they have the expertise in this field.
- The movement will ensure that tribals can earn a livelihood without causing environmental harm.
- It was **launched** at the **COP 14 of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)**.

Refer: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/govt-to-unveil-bamboonomics-for-carbon-credit-income-boost/articleshow/71057542.cms>

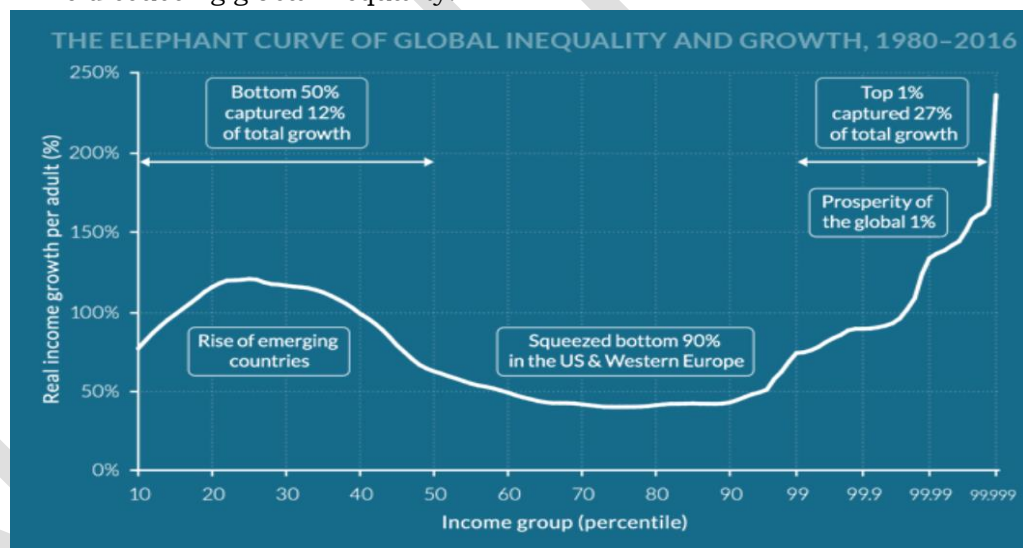
179. The “Elephant Curve”, sometimes in the news, is related to

- (a) Renewable energy
 (b) Global inequality
 (c) The great acceleration (Anthropocene epoch)
 (d) Global gender gap

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- General question, but relevant for prelims. It appears sometimes in the news while discussing global inequality.



Refer: <https://wid.world/>

180. The Tiwa tribe – that celebrates the ‘Yangli’ festival in which they seek protection for their crops from natural calamities – belong to the state of:

- (a) Rajasthan
 (b) Assam
 (c) Odisha
 (d) Jharkhand

Ans: (b)

Explanation:



- **Tiwa tribes people celebrate Yangli festival. It is celebrated in Assam's Karbi Anglong.**
- Yangli is an important festival for the Tiwas because of its relation to agriculture, a main source to their economy.
- The tribe is present in Meghalaya as well.

Refer: https://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-life/harvest-ritual/article23765532.ece?utm_source=tp-life&utm_medium=sticky_footer

RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 23th-Apr-2021

181. Consider the following statements about the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF):

1. It is an international non-governmental organization responsible for providing humanitarian and developmental aid to children worldwide.
2. It relies entirely on voluntary contributions from governments and private donors
3. It received the Nobel Prize for Peace in 2013.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- S2: UNICEF relies entirely on voluntary contributions from governments and private donors.
- S1: UNICEF is a United Nations agency responsible for providing humanitarian and developmental aid to children worldwide.
- S3: It received the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1965. <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/nobel-peace-prize>

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/23/gender-bias-and-inclusion-in-advertising-in-india/>

182. The countries bordering Turkey are

1. Greece
2. Lebanon
3. Georgia
4. Iran
5. Syria

Select the correct answer code:

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:



- Turkey is a transcontinental country located mainly on the Anatolian peninsula in Western Asia, with a smaller portion on the Balkan peninsula in Southeastern Europe. Turkey is bordered by Greece and Bulgaria to its northwest, the Black Sea to its north, Georgia to its northeast, Armenia, the Azerbaijani exclave of Nakhchivan and Iran to its east, Iraq and Syria to its southeast, the Mediterranean Sea to its south, and the Aegean Sea to its west.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/23/armenian-genocide/>

183. Consider the following statements about African Swine Fever (ASF):

1. In tropical regions, African Swine Fever (ASF) disease is transmitted by the same virus that transmits Brucellosis.
2. African Swine Fever (ASF) is not a threat to human beings since it only spreads from animals to other animals.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **About African Swine Fever (ASF):**

- ASF is a highly contagious and fatal animal disease that infects domestic and wild pigs, typically resulting in an acute form of hemorrhagic fever.
- It was first detected in Africa in the 1920s.
- The mortality is close to 100 per cent, and since the fever has no cure, the only way to stop it spreading is by culling the animals.
- ASF is not a threat to human beings since it only spreads from animals to other animals.
- According to the FAO, “its extremely high potential for transboundary spread has placed all the countries in the region in danger and has raised the spectre of ASF once more escaping from Africa. It is a disease of growing strategic importance for global food security and household income”.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/23/swine-fever/>

184. Adherence to ‘Codex Alimentarius’ will ensure that:

- (a) Activities such as trophy hunting will enable protection of endangered species
- (b) Essential medicines will be available at all times in adequate amounts with assured quality and at a price that the individual and community can afford



- (c) Every spacefaring nation will contribute to alleviating the problems caused by space debris
- (d) Food is safe and can be traded

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The Codex Alimentarius, or “Food Code” is a collection of standards, guidelines and codes of practice adopted by the Codex Alimentarius Commission. The Commission, also known as CAC, is the central part of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme and was established by FAO and WHO to protect consumer health and promote fair practices in food trade.
- Codex standards ensure that food is safe and can be traded. The 188 Codex members have negotiated science based recommendations in all areas related to food safety and quality: food hygiene; maximum limits for food additives; residues of pesticides and veterinary drugs; and maximum limits and codes for the prevention of chemical and microbiological contamination. Codex food safety texts are a reference in WTO trade disputes.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/23/fifth-session-of-the-codex-committee-on-spices-and-culinary-herbs-ccsch/>

185. Consider the following statements about the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC):

1. It is an intergovernmental body established jointly by the UN’s Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the World Trade Organisation (WTO).
2. The Secretariat of the CAC is hosted at FAO headquarters in Rome.
3. It meets in regular session once a year alternating between Geneva and Rome.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **About the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC):**

- It is **an intergovernmental body** established jointly by **the UN’s Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the World Health Organisation (WHO) in 1963**, within the framework of **the Joint Food Standards Programme**.
- The Secretariat of the CAC is hosted at FAO headquarters in Rome.
- It was established to protect the health of consumers and ensure fair practices in the food trade.
- It meets in regular session once a year alternating between **Geneva and Rome**.
- Currently, it has 189 Codex Members.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/23/fifth-session-of-the-codex-committee-on-spices-and-culinary-herbs-ccsch/>

186. Perseverance Rover, Hope Mission and InSight mission, sometimes seen in news is related to

- (a) Studying far side of the Moon
- (b) Earth observation mission
- (c) Studying the planet Mars
- (d) Asteroid Impact Deflection Assessment



Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Perseverance is a Mars rover manufactured by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory for use in NASA's Mars 2020 mission.
- The Interior Exploration using Seismic Investigations, Geodesy and Heat Transport (InSight) mission is a robotic lander designed to study the deep interior of the planet Mars.
- The United Arab Emirates' (UAE) Hope mission is a Mars orbiter spacecraft, which will study the thin atmosphere of Mars.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/23/nasas-perseverance-mission-has-extracted-oxygen-on-mars/>

187. Consider the following statements regarding Earth Day.

1. Earth Day aims to build the world's largest environmental movement to drive transformative change for people and the planet.
2. The year 2021 marks the 50th anniversary of the annual celebrations of Earth Day.
3. The landmark Paris Agreement was signed on Earth Day 2016.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- April 22 is Earth Day, an international event celebrated around the world to pledge support for environmental protection.
- **About the Earth Day:**
 - First observed in 1970.
 - The event was triggered by the 1969 Santa Barbara oil spill, as well as other issues such as smog and polluted rivers.
 - In 2009, the United Nations designated 22nd April as 'International Mother Earth Day'.
 - Earth Day is now globally coordinated by ORG, which is a non profit organisation.
 - The Paris Agreement was also signed on Earth Day 2016.
- S2: The year **2021 marks the 51st anniversary of the annual celebrations.**
 - This year's **theme for Earth Day is 'Restore Our Earth'.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/23/earth-day-2021/>

188. Consider the following statements about Competition Commission of India (CCI):

1. It is a statutory body of the Government of India.
 2. It consists of a Chairperson and 6 Members appointed by the President of India.
- Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)



Explanation:

- S1: CCI is a statutory body of the Government of India, responsible for enforcing the Competition Act, 2002 throughout India and to prevent activities that have an adverse effect on competition.
- S2: CCI consists of a Chairperson and 6 Members appointed by the Central Government.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/23/whatsapp-privacy-policy/>

189. In which one of the following groups are all the four countries members of OPEC plus group?

- Bahrain, Brunei, Kazakhstan, Malaysia
- Malaysia, Mexico, Afghanistan, Russia
- Russia, Eritrea, South Sudan and Sudan
- Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Libya, Kazakhstan

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **What is the Opec+?**
 - Opec+ refers to the alliance of crude producers, who have been undertaking corrections in supply in the oil markets since 2017.
 - OPEC plus countries include Azerbaijan, **Bahrain, Brunei, Kazakhstan, Malaysia**, Mexico, Oman, Russia, South Sudan and Sudan.
- **What is OPEC?**
 - The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) was founded in Baghdad, Iraq, with the signing of an agreement in September 1960 by five countries namely Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela. They were to become the Founder Members of the Organization.
 - OPEC is a permanent, intergovernmental organization.
 - OPEC's objective is to co-ordinate and unify petroleum policies among Member Countries, in order to secure fair and stable prices for petroleum producers; an efficient, economic and regular supply of petroleum to consuming nations; and a fair return on capital to those investing in the industry.
 - It is headquartered in Vienna, Austria.
 - OPEC membership is open to any country that is a substantial exporter of oil and which shares the ideals of the organization.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/11/10/what-is-the-opec-2/>

190. Consider the following statements about Finance Commission of India:

1. It is constituted by the Central Government under article 280 of the Constitution.
2. The First Finance Commission was constituted under the chairmanship of Shri K.C. Neogy on 6th April, 1952.
3. Fifteenth Finance Commissions have been constituted so far at intervals of every five years.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

- 1 and 2 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only



(d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- S1: The **Finance Commission** is constituted by the **President under article 280 of the Constitution**, mainly to give its recommendations on distribution of tax revenues between the Union and the States and amongst the States themselves.
- S2: The First Finance Commission was constituted vide Presidential Order dated 22.11.1951 under the chairmanship of **Shri K.C. Neogy** on 6th April, 1952.
- S3: **Fifteenth Finance Commissions have been constituted so far** at intervals of every five years.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/11/10/fifteenth-finance-commission/>



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**RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 24th-Apr-2021**

191. Currently, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India is entrusted with which of the following responsibilities?

1. Audit of the receipts and expenditure of the Centre and each state
2. Audit of the accounts of any other authority when requested by the Governor
3. Compiling and maintaining the accounts of central government
4. Ascertaining and certifying the net proceeds of any tax or duty
5. Controlling exchequer on behalf of the Parliament during financial emergency

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The duties and functions of the CAG as laid down by the Parliament and the Constitution
- He audits the receipts and expenditure of the Centre and each state to satisfy himself that the rules and procedures in that behalf are designed to secure an effective check on the assessment, collection and proper allocation of revenue
- He audits the accounts of any other authority when requested by the President or Governor. For example, the audit of local bodies
- He used to [before 1976 i.e. NOT CURRENTLY] compile and maintain the accounts of state governments. In 1976, he was relieved of his responsibilities with regard to the compilation and maintenance of accounts of the Central Government due to the separation of accounts from audit, that is, departmentalisation of accounts.
- He ascertains and certifies the net proceeds of any tax or duty (Article 279). His certificate is The 'net proceeds' means the proceeds of a tax or a duty minus the cost of collection.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/24/external-auditor-for-hague-based-opcw/>

192. Consider the following statements regarding the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW):

1. It is an independent autonomous international organisation.
2. It is the implementing body of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC).
3. It was awarded the 2013 Nobel Peace Prize "for its extensive efforts to eliminate chemical weapons".

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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



(c) 1 and 2 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The OPCW is an independent, autonomous international organisation with a working relationship with the United Nations.
- The Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons is **the implementing body of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC)**, which entered into force in 1997.
- The organisation was awarded **the 2013 Nobel Peace Prize** “for its extensive efforts to eliminate chemical weapons”.
- The OPCW Member States share the collective goal of preventing chemistry from ever again being used for warfare, thereby strengthening international security.

To this end, the Convention contains four key provisions:

- Destroying all existing chemical weapons under international verification by the OPCW.
- Monitoring chemical industry to prevent new weapons from re-emerging.
- Providing assistance and protection to States Parties against chemical threats.
- Fostering international cooperation to strengthen implementation of the Convention and promote the peaceful use of chemistry.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/24/external-auditor-for-hague-based-opcw/>

193. With reference to SVAMITVA scheme, consider the following statements:

1. It is a Central Sector Scheme.
2. The scheme is piloted by the Ministry of Rural Development.
3. Under the scheme, residential land in villages will be measured using drones to create a non-disputable record.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (c)

Explanation: Overview and key features of the ‘Swamitva Yojana’:

- Launched on Panchayati Raj Diwas (April 24th, 2020).
- The scheme seeks to map residential land ownership in the rural sector using modern technology like the use of drones.
- The scheme aims to revolutionise property record maintenance in India.
- The scheme is piloted by the Panchayati Raj ministry.
- Under the scheme, residential land in villages will be measured using drones to create a non-disputable record.
- Property card for every property in the village will be prepared by states using accurate measurements delivered by drone-mapping. These cards will be given to property owners and will be recognised by the land revenue records department.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/24/swamitva-scheme/>



194. Consider the following statements regarding Ways and Means Advances (WMA).

1. It is a facility for which both Centre and States can borrow money from the RBI.
2. These borrowings are meant purely to tide over temporary mismatches in cash flows of receipts and expenditures.
3. The interest rate on WMA is lower than RBI's repo rate.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation: **What are Ways and Means Advances?**

- They are temporary loan facilities provided by RBI to the government to enable it to meet temporary mismatches between revenue and expenditure.
- The government makes an interest payment to the central bank when it borrows money.
- **The rate of interest is the same as the repo rate, while the tenure is three months.**
- The limits for WMA are mutually decided by the RBI and the Government of India.
- States are allowed an overdraft facility (to borrow in excess of WMA limit) of 21 days.
- **Background:**
 - The WMA scheme for the Central Government was introduced on April 1, 1997, after putting an end to the four-decade old system of adhoc (temporary) Treasury Bills to finance the Central Government deficit.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/24/ways-and-means-credit/>

195. The Commercial Crew Program (CCP) sometimes mentioned news recently is related to

- (a) Deep-sea exploration
- (b) Space exploration
- (c) Intercontinental Transport Services
- (d) Himalayan Impact Expedition

Ans: (b)

Explanation: What is the Commercial Crew Program?

- The main objective of this program is to make access to space easier in terms of its cost, so that cargo and crew can be easily transported to and from the ISS, enabling greater scientific research.
- Through this program, NASA plans to lower its costs by sharing them with commercial partners such as Boeing and SpaceX, and also give the companies incentive to design and build the Commercial Orbital Transportation Services (COTS).
- **Background:**
 - Boeing and SpaceX were selected by NASA in September 2014 to develop transportation systems meant to transfer crew from the US to the ISS.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/24/crew-2-mission/>



196. The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) functions under the control of the:

- (a) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
- (b) Ministry of Home Affairs
- (c) Ministry of Defence
- (d) Ministry of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **Border Road Organisation (BRO):**

- Functioning under the control of the **Ministry of Defence** since 2015, the BRO is engaged in road construction to provide connectivity to difficult and inaccessible regions in the border areas of the country.
- It is staffed by officers and troops drawn from the Indian Army's Corps of Engineers, Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, Army Service Corps, Military Police and army personnel on extra regimental employment.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/24/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-24-april-2021/>

197. Consider the following statements about UNFCCC

1. The UNFCCC was adopted in 1992 at the Rio Earth Summit.
2. The first UN Climate Change Conference was held in Berlin.
3. The framework sets binding limits on greenhouse gas emissions for individual countries.
4. Nearly all member states of the United Nations have ratified the convention.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- The UNFCCC was adopted in 1992 at the Rio Earth Summit, which marked the beginning of the international community's first concerted effort to confront the problem of climate change. Known also as the Rio Convention, the UNFCCC established a framework for action to stabilise concentrations of greenhouse gases in the earth's atmosphere. The UNFCCC entered into force in 1994, and nearly all of the world's nations—a total of 197—have ratified. The framework sets non-binding limits on greenhouse gas emissions for individual countries and contains no enforcement mechanisms.
- The first UN Climate Change Conference was held in 1995 in Berlin

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/24/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-24-april-2021/>

198. Local self-government can be best explained as an exercise in

- (a) Federalism
- (b) Democratic decentralisation
- (c) Administrative delegation
- (d) Direct democracy

Ans: (b)

Explanation:



- Option B: Decentralization and grass roots empowerment are the core guiding principles of local self-government as under 73rd and 74th constitutional amendment. For e.g. Gram Panchayats can sanction sanitation and welfare projects on their own.
- Option A: Local bodies are not federal entities as is the position of states in India.
- Option C: This isn't administrative delegation because local self-government bodies are political entities that are elected directly (or indirectly) by people and managed by their representatives.
- Option D: Since it involves election and indirect decision making by people's representatives, there can be no direct democracy (where all decisions are made directly by the people).
- National Panchayati Raj Day:
 - The Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act came into effect on 24 April 1993 marking the formalisation of the Panchayati Raj system in India.
 - Hence, the day is commemorated as the National Panchayati Raj Day annually in the country.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/24/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-24-april-2021/>

199. Which of the following are recognised as “Three Sisters” by the World Trade Organization’s (WTO) Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) Agreement.

1. International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)
2. Codex Alimentarius Commission
3. Pacific Plant Protection Organization
4. World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)

Select the correct answer code:

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- The **International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)** is one of the “Three Sisters” recognized by the World Trade Organization’s (WTO) Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) Agreement, along with the **Codex Alimentarius Commission** for food safety standards and the **World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)** for animal health standards.

Refer: <https://www.ippc.int/en/about/overview/>

200. Consider the following pairs:

GI Product	State
1. Shahi Litchi	West Bengal
2. Kadaknath chicken meat	Madhya Pradesh
3. Etikoppaka toys	Tamil Nadu
4. Adilabad dokra	Telangana

Select the correct answer code:

- (a) 1 and 3 only



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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Shahi Litchi – Bihar
- Kadaknath chicken meat – Madhya Pradesh
- Etikoppaka toys – Andhra Pradesh
- Adilabad dokra – Telangana

Refer: <https://www.ipindia.gov.in/registered-gls.htm>

RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 26th-Apr-2021

201. The countries bordering Armenia are

1. Turkey
2. Georgia
3. Azerbaijan
4. Iraq

Select the correct answer code:

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- Armenia is a landlocked country in Western Asia, situated in the Transcaucasus region, between the Black and Caspian Seas, bordered on the north and east by **Georgia** and **Azerbaijan** and on the south and west by **Iran**, **Azerbaijan's exclave Nakhchivan**, and **Turkey**.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/27/what-happened-to-armenians-in-1915/>



202. With reference to the Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations (PM CARES) Fund, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It has been registered as a Public Charitable Trust.
2. It consists entirely of voluntary contributions from individuals/organizations and does not get any budgetary support.
3. It is audited by an independent auditor outside the Government.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- S3: PM CARES Fund is audited by an independent auditor. Trustees of the Fund during the 2nd meeting held on 23.04.2020 decided to appoint M/s SARC & Associates, Chartered Accountants, New Delhi as the auditors of PM CARES Fund for 3 years.
- S2: PM CARES Fund accepts voluntary contributions by individuals/organizations as well as contributions as part of CSR from Companies/Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs). However, contributions flowing out of budgetary sources of the PSUs are not accepted.
- S1: PM CARES Fund has been registered as a Public Charitable Trust. The trust deed of PM CARES Fund has been registered under the Registration Act, 1908 at New Delhi on 27th March, 2020.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/27/pm-cares/>

203. Who is the ex-officio Chairman of the PM CARES Fund?

- (a) President of India
- (b) Prime Minister of India
- (c) Joint Secretary (Administration) in the PMO
- (d) Minister of Home Affairs

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- The Prime Minister is Chairperson (ex-officio) of the PM CARES Fund and Minister of Defence, Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Finance, Government of India are ex-officio Trustees of the Fund.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/27/pm-cares/>

204. Consider the following statements:

1. The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) has been established under Ministry of Home affairs (MHA) to act as a nodal point at National level in the fight against cybercrime.
2. The CERT-In has envisaged the Cyber Crime Volunteers Program to bring together citizens with passion to serve the nation on a single platform and contribute in fight against cybercrime in the country.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only



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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) is an office within the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology of the Government of India. It is the nodal agency to deal with cyber security threats like hacking and phishing
- S1: **Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C)** has been established under **Ministry of Home affairs (MHA)** to act as a nodal point at National level in the fight against cybercrime. It aims to provide a platform to deal with cybercrimes in a coordinated and comprehensive manner. One of the important objectives of I4C is to create ecosystem that brings together academia, industry, public and government in prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of cybercrimes.
- S2: I4C has envisaged the Cyber Crime Volunteers Program to bring together citizens with passion to serve the nation on a single platform and contribute in fight against cybercrime in the country.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/27/cybercrime-volunteer-programme/>

205. Shreya Singhal v. Union of India case is related to

- (a) Right to health
(b) Right to fair trial
(c) Right to privacy
(d) None of the above

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Shreya Singhal case is well known for the **striking down of Section 66A of the IT Act.**
- Section 69A grants to the government the power to issue directions to intermediaries for blocking access to any information that it considers prejudicial to, among other things, the sovereignty and integrity of India, national security, or public order. Section 69A (3) envisages a jail sentence for up to seven years for intermediaries who fail to comply.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/27/cybercrime-volunteer-programme/>

206. Consider the following statements regarding compulsory licensing:

1. Compulsory licensing is when a government allows someone else to produce a patented product or process with the consent of the patent owner.
2. It is included in the WTO's Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights Agreement.
3. India grants compulsory licenses frequently for the production of generic drugs.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)



Explanation:

- **Compulsory licensing** 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 (Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights) Agreement.
- For compulsory licensing, it's when the generic copy is produced mainly for the domestic market, not for export.
- The patent owner still has rights over the patent, including a right to be paid compensation for copies of the products made under the compulsory licence.
- The TRIPS Agreement does not specifically list the reasons that might be used to justify compulsory licensing. However, **the Doha Declaration on TRIPS and Public Health confirms that countries are free to determine the grounds for granting compulsory licences, and to determine what constitutes a national emergency.**
- **In March 2012, India granted its first compulsory license ever.** The license was granted to Indian generic drug manufacturer Natco Pharma for Sorafenib tosylate, a cancer drug patented by Bayer.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/27/compulsory-licensing/>

207. The 'Deep Time Project' was in news recently, is associated with which of the following?

- Measuring time in deep space
- Measuring time in deep ocean
- Gravitational time dilation
- None of the above

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **Deep Time Project:**

- The Deep Time project in France's Lombrives Cave came to an end. As part of the project, a group of 15 people stayed in and explored the cave for 40 days and 40 nights.
- They slept in tents, made their own electricity, and had no contact with the outside world.
- **The Deep Time project looked at how a lack of external touch affects one's perception of time.**
- Its aim was to investigate how people adjust to dramatic changes in their living conditions and environments.
- Scientists at the Human Adaption Institute leading the \$1.5 million "Deep Time" project say the experiment will help them better understand how people adapt to drastic changes in living conditions and environments.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/27/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-26-april-2021/>

208. Consider the following statements regarding TRAFFIC

- It is a joint program of WWF and IUCN
- It is governed by UNEP.
- It aims to ensure that trade in wild plants and animals is not a threat to the conservation of nature.



Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **TRAFFIC – The Wildlife Trade Monitoring Network:**

- **Founded in 1976 as a strategic alliance of the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)**
- Headquarters — Cambridge, UK
- Type — International non-governmental organization
- Wildlife Trade Monitoring Network
- Aim — **‘ensure that trade in wild plants and animals is not a threat to the conservation of nature**
- **It is governed by the board of trustees of TRAFFIC International**
- TRAFFIC’s 2020 goal — help reduce the pressure of illegal and unsustainable wildlife trade on biodiversity, and enhance the benefits to wildlife conservation and human well-being that derive from trade at sustainable levels.

Refer: <https://www.traffic.org/>

209. Consider the following:

1. Hotels and restaurants
2. Motor transport undertakings
3. Newspaper establishments
4. Private medical institutions

The employees of which of the above can have the ‘Social Security’ coverage under “Employees’ State Insurance Scheme”?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **All of them are covered under Employees’ State Insurance Scheme’**

Refer: <https://www.india.gov.in/spotlight/employees-state-insurance-scheme>

210. Which of the following Indian state has longest coastline?

- (a) West Bengal
- (b) Andhra Pradesh
- (c) Kerala
- (d) Gujarat

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Gujarat shares longest (mainland) coastline in India. The entire length of India’s coastline is 7516.6 kilometres. The length of Gujarat coastline is 1214.7 kilometres

**RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 27th-Apr-2021**

211. “Chandler Good Government Index” is released by which of the following?

- (a) Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- (b) World Economic Forum (WEF)
- (c) World Bank Group
- (d) None of the above

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **About the Index:**

- The Chandler Good Government Index is an annual Index, built by government practitioners, for government practitioners, measuring the capabilities and effectiveness of 104 governments around the world.
- **The Chandler Institute of Governance (CIG)** is an international non-profit organisation, headquartered in Singapore.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/27/chandler-good-government-index-cggi/>

212. The “Ladakh Ignited Minds” project is an initiative of:

- (a) Niti Aayog
- (b) Ministry of Home Affairs
- (c) Indian Army
- (d) Central Reserve Police Force

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- To provide better educational opportunities for Ladakhi students, the Indian Army has initiated the project Ladakh Ignited Minds: A Centre of Excellence and Wellness.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/27/project-ladakh-ignited-minds/>

213. Consider the following statements regarding Project DANTAK:

1. Project DANTAK was raised in 1961 for works in Nepal.
2. It is one of the oldest Projects of the Border Roads Organisation (BRO).

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- S1: Project DANTAK was established on April 24, 1961 for works in **Bhutan**.
- DANTAK was tasked to construct the pioneering motorable roads in the Kingdom.
- S2: It is one of the oldest Projects of the **Border Roads Organisation** (BRO).

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/27/project-dantak/>



214. The term 'Zhurong', sometimes mentioned in media, is related to which of the following?

- (a) first rocket to run on biofuel
- (b) launch vehicle suited for student and budget payloads
- (c) China's first Mars rover
- (d) None of the above

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- China's first Mars rover will be named Zhurong after a traditional fire god.
- The rover is aboard the Tianwen-1 probe that arrived in Mars orbit on February 24 and is due to land in May to look for evidence of life.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/27/zhurong/>

215. Consider the following statements:

1. Liquid oxygen has a dark white color and is strongly paramagnetic.
2. Liquid oxygen is a very powerful oxidizing agent.
3. Liquid oxygen is the most common cryogenic liquid oxidizer propellant for spacecraft rocket applications.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- S1: Liquid oxygen has a pale blue color and is strongly paramagnetic: it can be suspended between the poles of a powerful horseshoe magnet.
- S2: Liquid oxygen is also a very powerful oxidizing agent: organic materials will burn rapidly and energetically in liquid oxygen.
- S3: Liquid oxygen is the most common cryogenic liquid oxidizer propellant for spacecraft rocket applications, usually in combination with liquid hydrogen, kerosene or methane.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/27/disaster-management-act-2/>

216. Consider the following statements about the Disaster Management Act, 2005:

1. It came into force in India in 2006.
2. It calls for the establishment of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), with the Minister of Home Affairs of India as chairperson.
3. It mandates that all State Governments must establish a State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA).

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:



- S1: It came into force in India in January 2006.
- S2: The Act calls for the establishment of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), with the Prime Minister of India as chairperson.
- S3: All State Governments are mandated to establish a State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA).

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/27/disaster-management-act-2/>

217. Consider the following statements regarding State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF).

1. It was constituted based on the recommendations of the 13th Finance Commission.
2. The Central Government contributes 50% to SDRF and the remaining 50% is provided from the State Government.
3. A State Government may use the funds available under the SDRF for providing immediate relief to the victims of natural disasters that they consider to be 'disasters' within the local context in the State.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- SDRF has been constituted by each state under the provisions **of Disaster Management act 2005.**
- It was constituted based on the recommendations of the **13th Finance Commission.**
- Funding: **The Central Government contributes 75% of SDRF allocation for general category States/UTs and 90% for special category States/UTs.**
- Heads: The state executive committee headed by the Chief Secretary is authorized to decide on all matters relating to the financing of the relief expenditure from the SDRF.
- Disaster (s) covered under SDRF: Cyclone, drought, earthquake, fire, flood, tsunami, hailstorm, landslide, avalanche, cloudburst, pest attack, frost and cold waves.
- Local Disaster: **A State Government may use up to 10 percent of the funds available under the SDRF for providing immediate relief to the victims of natural disasters that they consider to be 'disasters' within the local context in the State** and which are not included in the notified list of disasters of the Ministry of Home Affairs subject to the condition that the State Government has listed the State specific natural disasters and notified clear and transparent norms and guidelines for such disasters with the approval of the State Authority, i.e., the State Executive Authority (SEC).

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/27/disaster-management-act-2/>

218. The Chairmen of public sector banks are selected by the

- (a) Banks Board Bureau
- (b) Reserve Bank of India
- (c) Union Ministry of Finance
- (d) Management of concerned bank



Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- The Union Government in 2016, approved the constitution of the Banks Board Bureau as a body of eminent professionals and officials to make recommendations for appointment of whole-time directors as well as non-executive **chairpersons of Public Sector Banks** (PSBs) and state-owned financial institutions.
- **RBI caps age at 70 for bank MD, CEO, director positions:**
 - The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has fixed the tenure of MD, CEO and whole-time director (WTD) in a private sector bank at 15 years and prescribed the maximum age of 70 years for such functionaries.
 - The maximum age limit for chairman and non-executive directors has been fixed at 75 years.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/27/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-27-april-2021/>

219. The term “single crystal blades technology” is mentioned in the news in the context of the development of:

- (a) Puncture-proof tyre
- (b) Motorcycle gear
- (c) Aircraft wings
- (d) Helicopter engines

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **India Joins League of Nations That Can Manufacture Single Crystal Components for Helicopters:**

- The DRDO has developed the single crystal blades technology and supplied 60 of these blades to HAL as part of its indigenous helicopter development programme.

Refer: fact for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/27/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-27-april-2021/>

220. Which of the following countries are in Sahel region?

1. Mauritania
2. Morocco
3. Niger
4. Gabon
5. Chad

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

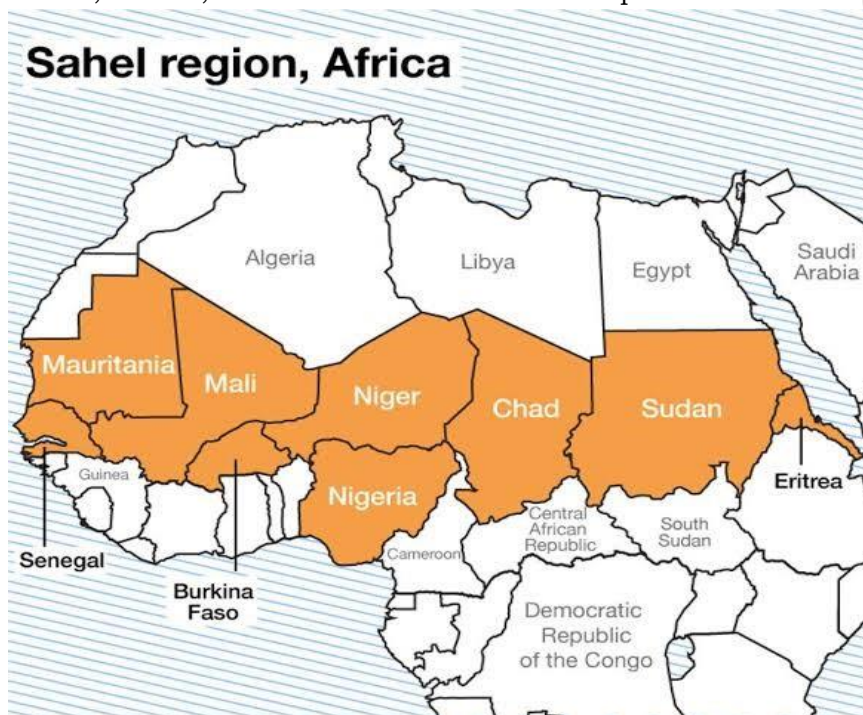
Ans: (b)

Explanation: **Places in News- Sahel:**

- Chad, the former French colony is now prime outpost of the West in fighting Islamist militants across the Sahel. France still has a strong military presence in the sahel region.



- The Sahel is the ecoclimatic and biogeographic realm of transition in Africa between the Sahara to the north and the Sudanian savanna to the south.
- Having a semi-arid climate, it **stretches across the south-central latitudes of Northern Africa between the Atlantic Ocean and the Red Sea.**
- **The Sahel part of Africa includes** northern Senegal, southern Mauritania, central Mali, northern Burkina Faso, the extreme south of Algeria, Niger, the extreme north of Nigeria, the extreme north of Cameroon and Central African Republic, central Chad, central and southern Sudan, the extreme north of South Sudan, Eritrea, and the extreme north of Ethiopia.



Refer: fact for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/27/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-27-april-2021/>

RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 28th-Apr-2021

221. The article 223 of the Indian Constitution, sometimes seen in news is related to:

- measures taken by the supreme court to do complete justice
- appellate jurisdiction of supreme court in appeals from high courts
- conferment on the supreme court of powers to issue certain writs
- appointment of acting Chief Justice

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **About Article 223 of the Indian Constitution:**

- **“Appointment of acting Chief Justice”**
- When the office of Chief Justice of High Court is vacant or when any such Chief Justice is, by reason of absence or otherwise, unable to perform the duties of his office, the duties of the office shall be performed by such one of the other Judges of the Court as the President may appoint for the purposes.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/28/article-223-of-the-constitution/>

222. Consider the following statements regarding the Supply Chain Resilience Initiative (SCRI):

1. It is a multi-stakeholder initiative formed by the United States, Japan, India and Australia.
2. It mainly focuses to build and finance quality infrastructure projects in the Indo-Pacific region.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- In a move to counter China's dominance of supply chain in the Indo-Pacific region, trade ministers of **India, Japan and Australia** have formally launched the **Supply Chain Resilience Initiative (SCRI)**.
- **What is it?**
 - The SCRI aims to create a virtuous cycle of enhancing supply chain resilience with a view to eventually attaining strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth in the region.
 - Initially, SCRI will focus on sharing best practices on supply chain resilience and holding investment promotion events and buyer-seller matching events to provide opportunities for stakeholders to explore the possibility of diversification of their supply chains.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/28/supply-chain-resilience-initiative-scri/>

223. Which one of the following has released report on "Trends in Global Military Expenditure"?

- (a) World Economic Forum
- (b) Transparency International
- (c) Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
- (d) Stockholm International Peace Research Institute

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)** has released its report on **trends in global military expenditure in 2020**.
- **The five biggest spenders in 2020**, which together accounted for 62 per cent of global military expenditure, were the United States, China, India, Russia and the United Kingdom.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/28/report-on-trends-in-global-military-expenditure/>

224. Consider the following statements about 'Human Rights Watch':

1. It is an international non-governmental organization with its headquarters in the United Kingdom focused on human rights.



2. It was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for its “defence of human dignity against torture”.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **About Human Rights Watch:**

- Founded in 1978, it is an international non-governmental organization, headquartered in New York City, that conducts research and advocacy on human rights.
- The group pressures governments, policy makers, companies, and individual human rights abusers to denounce abuse and respect human rights, and the group often works on behalf of refugees, children, migrants, and political prisoners.
- Headquartered in New York.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/28/human-rights-watch/>

225. The countries bordering Israel are

- 1. Lebanon
- 2. Egypt
- 3. Syria
- 4. Iraq

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Israel is bordered by **Lebanon** to the north, **Syria** and **Jordan** to the east, and **Egypt** to the south.





Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/28/human-rights-watch/>

226. The “Large Area Certification Scheme”, sometime mentioned in news, was launched under the:

- (a) National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture
- (b) Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan
- (c) Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana
- (d) None of the above

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **About the ‘Large Area Certification’ scheme:**

- **Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** under its flagship scheme of **Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojna (PKVY)** has launched this unique quick certification programme to harness these potential areas.
- Under LAC, each village in the area is considered as one cluster/group.
- All farmers with their farmland and livestock need to adhere to the standard requirements and on being verified get certified en-mass without the need to go under conversion period.
- Certification is renewed on annual basis through annual verification by a process of peer appraisals as per the process of PGS-India.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/28/large-area-certification-scheme/>

227. Consider the following statements regarding Participatory Guarantee Scheme:

1. PGS grants organic farming certification through a process of third party certification.
2. Individual farmers or group of farmers smaller than five members are not covered under Participatory Guarantee Scheme (PGS).

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **Participatory Guarantee Scheme (PGS):**

- Union Agriculture Ministry’s PGS is a process of certifying organic products, which ensures that their production takes place in accordance with laid-down quality standards.
- The certification is in the form of a documented logo or a statement.
- According to the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM), the Bonn-based global umbrella organisation for the organic agriculture movement, **PGSs are “locally focused quality assurance systems”** that “certify producers based on active participation of stakeholders and are built on a foundation of trust, social networks and knowledge exchange”.
- **Stat1:** PGS, according to this definition, is “a process in which people in similar situations (in this case small holder producers) assess, inspect and verify the production practices of each other and take decisions on organic certification”
 - However, the operational manual also identifies some limitations of PGS:



- PGS certification is only for farmers or communities that can organise and perform as a group within a village or a cluster of contiguous villages, and is applicable only to farm activities such as crop production, processing, and livestock rearing, and off-farm processing “by PGS farmers of their direct products”.
- **S2: Individual farmers or group of farmers smaller than five members are not covered under PGS.** They either have to opt for third party certification or join the existing PGS local group.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/28/large-area-certification-scheme/>

228. The ‘Project Pyrasol’ was in news recently, is related to which of the following?

- (a) Wetland conservation
- (b) Urban waste management
- (c) Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
- (d) Generation of solar energy

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **Project Pyrasol:**

- The project focuses on managing and organising collection, treatment, and disposal systems of urban wastes in Indian Smart Cities as well as in other urban centres with an integrated and interactive approach.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/28/project-pyrasol/>

229. Consider the following statements regarding Hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC)-141 b:

1. It one of the most potent ozone depleting chemical after Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs).
2. It is used mainly as a blowing agent in the production of rigid polyurethane (PU) foams.
3. India has successfully achieved the complete phase out of HCFC-141 b.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- India has successfully achieved the complete phase out of **hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC)-141 b**, claims the ministry of environment, forest and climate change.
- **About HCFC- 141 b:**
 - It is **a chemical used by foam manufacturers.**
 - It is used **mainly as a blowing agent in the production of rigid polyurethane (PU) foams.**
 - It is one of the **most potent ozone depleting chemical after Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs).**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/01/23/hydrochlorofluorocarbons-hcfc/>

230. Consider the following statements:

1. The Green Climate Fund (GCF) was established on the eve of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit.



2. The Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) was created in 2001 to address the specific needs of developing countries under the UNFCCC.
3. The Global Environment Facility (GEF) was set up in 2010 as part of UNFCCC's financial mechanism.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- S1: The **Green Climate Fund (GCF)** is a fund established in 2010 within the framework of the UNFCCC as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism to assist developing countries in adaptation and mitigation practices to counter climate change. **The GCF is based in Incheon, South Korea.** It is governed by a Board of 24 members and supported by a Secretariat.
- S2: **The Special Climate Change Fund** was established in November 2001 under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to finance activities, programs and measures relating to climate change that are complementary to those funded by the resources allocated to the climate change focal area of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund.
- S3: **The Global Environment Facility** was established on the eve of the 1992 **Rio Earth Summit** to help tackle our planet's most pressing environmental problems.

Refer: <https://www.thegef.org/> <https://www.greenclimate.fund/>

<https://fiftrustee.worldbank.org/en/about/unit/dfi/fiftrustee/fund-detail/sccf>



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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 29th-Apr-2021

231. Consider the following statements:

In order to be appointed as a Judge of a High Court:

1. He should be a citizen of India.
2. He should have held a judicial office in the territory of India for ten years.
3. He should be a distinguished jurist in the opinion of the president.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Qualification to Become a High Court Judge**
 - A person to be appointed as a judge of a high court, should be a citizen of India.
 - He should have held a judicial office in the territory of India for ten years
 - should have been an advocate of high court(s) for ten years.
 - There is no minimum age fixed for high Court judges, and unlike in Supreme Court, **there is no provision for appointment of a distinguished jurist as a judge of a high court.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/29/article-217-of-the-constitution-of-india/>

232. In India, the judges of a High Court are appointed by the:

- (a) Governor of a State
- (b) President of India
- (c) Chief Minister of State
- (d) Chief Justice of High Court

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- In exercise of the power conferred by **clause (1) of Article 217 of the Constitution of India**, the **President has appointed Smt. Justice Vimla S. Kapoor, Additional Judge of the Chhattisgarh High Court**, to be Judge of the Chhattisgarh High Court with effect from the date she assumes charge of her office.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/29/article-217-of-the-constitution-of-india/>

233. In India, Parliamentary Committee means a committee that:

1. is appointed or elected by the House or nominated by the Speaker /Chairman
2. works under the direction of the Speaker / Chairman
3. presents its report to the House or to the Speaker / Chairman
4. has a secretariat provided by the Lok Sabha / Rajya Sabha

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 3 only



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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The Constitution of India makes a mention of these committees at different places, but without making any specific provisions regarding their composition, tenure, functions, etc. All these matters are dealt by the rules of two Houses.

Accordingly, **a parliamentary committee means a committee that:**

- Is appointed or elected by the House or nominated by the Speaker / Chairman
- Works under the direction of the Speaker / Chairman
- Presents its report to the House or to the Speaker / Chairman
- Has a secretariat provided by the Lok Sabha / Rajya Sabha
- The **consultative committees**, which also consist of members of Parliament, are not parliamentary committees as **they do not fulfill above four conditions.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/29/leaders-call-for-house-panels-meet/>

234. With reference to Parliamentary Standing Committees, consider the following statements:

1. Standing Committees not only supervise the work of various departments but also their budget.
2. Public Accounts Committee is an example of Standing Committee.
3. Members of the Standing committees are selected from both Houses.
4. Standing Committees are permanent in nature.
5. Standing Committees are means of parliamentary control over the executive.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Standing Committees not only supervise the work of various departments but also their budget, their expenditure and bills that come up in the house relating to the department.
- It is a permanent and regular committee which is constituted from time to time according to the provisions of an Act of Parliament or Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business.
- The work done by the Indian Parliament is not only voluminous but also of a complex nature, hence a good deal of its work is carried out in these Parliamentary Committees.
- There are two types of Parliamentary Committee, the Standing Committee and the Ad hoc Committee. Public Accounts Committee is an example of Standing Committee. Members of the Standing committees are selected from both Houses, except for Estimates Committee where all the members are from Lok Sabha Only.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/29/leaders-call-for-house-panels-meet/>



235. With reference to the Parliament of India, which of the following Parliamentary Committees scrutinizes and reports to the House whether the powers to make regulations, rules, sub-rules, by-laws, etc. conferred by the Constitution or delegated by the Parliament are being properly exercised by the Executive within the scope of such delegation?

- (a) Committee on Government Assurances
- (b) Committee on Subordinate Legislation
- (c) Rules Committee
- (d) Business Advisory Committee

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Committee of Subordinate Legislation examines and reports to the House whether the powers to make regulations, rule, sub-rules and by laws delegated by the parliament or conferred by the constitution to the executive are being properly exercised by it. In both the houses the committee consists of 15 members. It was constituted in 1953.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/29/leaders-call-for-house-panels-meet/>

236. Consider the following statements:

According to the new Vehicle Scrappage Policy,

1. Commercial vehicles of more than 15 years will have to be mandatorily scrapped if they don't pass the fitness and emission tests.
2. Passenger vehicles of more than 20 years will have to be voluntarily scrapped if they don't pass the fitness and emission tests.
3. Government departments will have to let go of their vehicles after they are used for 15 years.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- According to the new policy, commercial vehicles of more than 15 years and passenger vehicles of more than 20 years will have to be mandatorily scrapped if they don't pass the fitness and emission tests. Also, government departments will have to let go of their vehicles after they are used for 15 years.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/29/vehicle-scrappage-policy/>

237. Consider the following statements regarding the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund:

1. It is a short term debt financing facility for investment in viable projects for post-harvest management infrastructure.
2. It will be managed and monitored by Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC).

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2



(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (d)

Explanation: About the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund:

- S1: It is a **medium – long term debt financing facility** for investment in viable projects for **post-harvest management infrastructure** and community farming assets through interest subvention and credit guarantee.
 - The duration of the scheme is from FY2020 to FY2029 (10 years).
 - Under the scheme, Rs. 1 Lakh Crore will be provided by banks and financial institutions as loans with interest subvention of 3% per annum and credit guarantee coverage under CGTMSE for loans up to Rs. 2 Crores.
- S2: It will be managed and monitored through **an online Management Information System (MIS)** platform.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/29/agriculture-infrastructure-fund-2/>

238. Consider the following statements about Aditya- L1 mission:

1. It is India's first solar mission.
 2. It will be launched using the Launch Vehicle Mark 3 (LVM3)
 3. It will have more than 50 payloads (instruments) on board.
- Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation: **About Aditya- L1 mission:**

- It is **India's first solar mission**. It will be launched using **the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) in XL**
- It will have **seven payloads (instruments) on board**.
- **It seeks to study** the Sun's corona, solar emissions, solar winds and flares, and Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs), and will carry out round-the-clock imaging of the Sun.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/29/aditya-l1-support-cell/>

239. What is "Python-5", sometimes seen in the news?

- (a) An Israeli radar system
 (b) India's indigenous anti-missile programme
 (c) An American anti-missile system
 (d) None of the above

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **Python-5:**

- DRDO conducts maiden trial of **Python-5 Air to Air Missile**.
- Python is a family of **air-to-air missiles (AAMs) built by the Israeli weapons manufacturer Rafael Advanced Defense Systems**.
- Python 5 can engage enemy aircraft from very short ranges and near beyond visual range.



Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/29/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-29-april-2021/>

240. Consider the following statements:

1. All natural earthquakes take place in the lithosphere.
2. An earthquake's point of initial rupture is called its hypocenter.
3. According to the present zoning map, Assam state fall in 'Zone 5'.

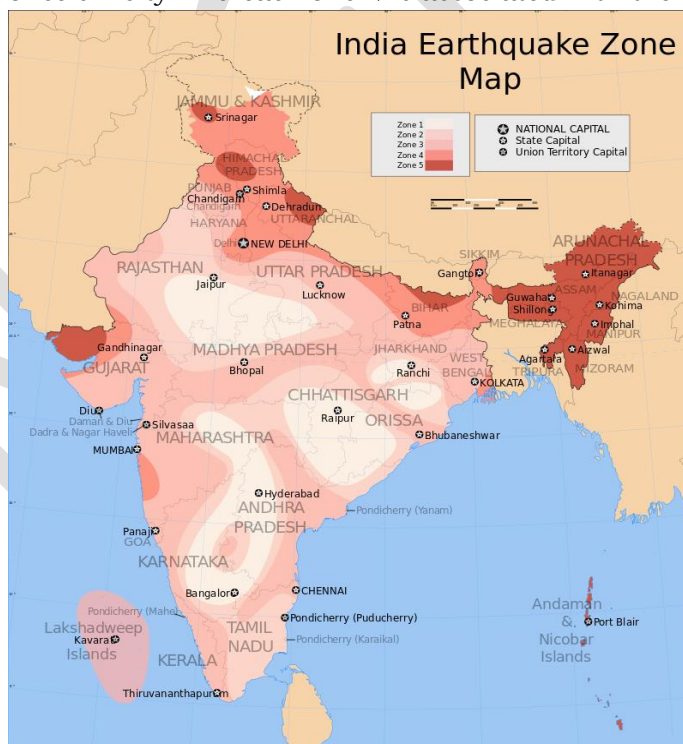
Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Stat1: An earthquake is the shaking of the surface of the Earth resulting from a sudden release of energy in the Earth's lithosphere that creates seismic waves and **all natural earthquakes take place in the lithosphere.**
- Stat2: **An earthquake's point of initial rupture** is called its **hypocenter or focus.** The **epicenter** is the point at ground level directly above the hypocenter.
- Stat3: Geographical statistics of India show that almost 54% of the land is vulnerable to earthquakes. The latest version of seismic zoning map of India given in the earthquake resistant design code of India assigns four levels of seismicity for India in terms of zone factors. In other words, **the earthquake zoning map of India divides India into 4 seismic zones (Zone 2, 3, 4 and 5) unlike its previous version, which consisted of five or six zones for the country.** According to the present zoning map, Zone 5 expects the highest level of seismicity whereas Zone 2 is associated with the lowest level of seismicity.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/29/assam-earthquake/>



RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 30th-Apr-2021

241. Consider the following statements:

1. The Legislative Assembly of Delhi was first constituted in the year of 1993, after the Constitution (Sixty-ninth Amendment) Act, 1991.
2. As per article 239AA of Indian Constitution, the number of ministers cannot exceed ten percent of Delhi assembly seats.
3. The Lieutenant Governor of Delhi is appointed by the President of India.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- S3: The Lieutenant Governor of Delhi is appointed by the President of India, as agent of President and head of state like governor, on the advice of the Central government.
- S1 & S2: **The Legislative Assembly of Delhi was first constituted on 17 March 1952 under the Government of Part C States Act, 1951, but it was abolished on 1 October 1956.** Its legislative assembly was re-established in the year of 1993, after the Constitution (Sixty-ninth Amendment) Act, 1991 came into force, followed by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi Act, 1991 the Sixty-ninth Amendment to the Constitution of India, declared the Union Territory of Delhi to be formally known as National Capital Territory of Delhi.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/30/delhi-govt-s-responsibilities-remain-centre/>

242. The Karen conflict was in news recently, it has been described as one of the world's "longest running civil wars", this armed conflict is associated with which of the following country?

- (a) Thailand
- (b) Israel
- (c) China
- (d) Myanmar

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Myanmar's military has launched air strikes on a village and outpost near **the Thai border**, after **ethnic minority Karen insurgents** attacked a Myanmar army post in some of the worst clashes since a Feb. 1 coup.
- The **Karen National Union (KNU)**, Myanmar's oldest rebel group, has also said its fighters had taken the army camp on the west bank of the Salween river.
- **Who are the KNU?**
 - The KNU is the dominant political organisation representing ethnic minority Karen communities in Karen, or Kayin, State, bordering Thailand.



- Its aim is self-determination for the Karen people in a region of about 1.6 million people, roughly the size of Belgium, where they are the ethnic majority in the state.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/30/karen-rebels/>

243. The “Net Zero Producers Forum” was in news recently, is an initiative of:

- (a) The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
- (b) The UNEP Secretariat
- (c) The UNFCCC Secretariat
- (d) None of the above

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- At Joe Biden’s climate summit on Friday, **the US, Canada, Norway, Saudi Arabia and Qatar** – together responsible for 40% of global oil and gas production – **set up a forum “that will develop pragmatic net-zero emission strategies”**.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/30/net-zero-producers-forum/>

244. What is “Tianhe module”, sometimes seen in the news?

- (a) Russia’s planned space station
- (b) China’s planned space station
- (c) the first rocket to run on biofuel
- (d) none of the above

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **Tianhe module:**

- It is the first module of China’s planned space station.
- The core module, currently the largest spacecraft developed by China, was launched into low earth orbit by a Long **March-5B rocket**, marking the first step of China’s efforts to build its own station in two years.
- The Tianhe module will act as the management and control hub of the space station

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/30/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-30april-2021/>

245. The Kidd Mine is currently the deepest base metal mine in the world, is located in:

- (a) Mexico
- (b) United States of America
- (c) Canada
- (d) China

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **World’s Oldest Water:**

- World’s Oldest Water **Found in Canada** Sheds Light on the Beginning of Life.
- In 2019, **geologist and earth sciences professor Dr. Barbara Sherwood Lollar** of the University of Toronto received the top **science prize of the Gerhard Herzberg** Canada Gold Medal for Science and Engineering worth \$1 million for discovering the world’s oldest water.
- It was found at a depth of 2.4 kilometers in Kidd Creek Mine.
- The water is highly saline, which is ten times saltier than seawater.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/30/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-30april-2021/>

246. The Indian scientists recently developed a new Soy Bean variety called the “MACS 1407”. In the context of this, consider the following statements:

1. It is developed by scientists from Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science (IAC), Kolkata.
2. It is a high yielding variety that gives 100 quintals per hectare.
3. It is best suited for cultivation in the rain fed regions of North East India.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **MACS 1407:**

- It is a high-yielding and pest-resistant variety of soybean developed by Indian Scientists.
- It is suitable for cultivation in the states of Assam, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and North-Eastern states.
- **S1:** The new variety has been developed by scientists from MACS – Agharkar Research Institute (ARI), Pune.
- The variety was developed using the conventional cross breeding technique.
- Its thick stem, higher pod insertion (7 cm) from ground, and resistance to pod shattering make it suitable even for mechanical harvesting.
- **S2:** Using the conventional cross breeding technique, scientists developed MACS 1407 which gives 39 quintals per hectare making it a high yielding variety.
- **S3:** It is suitable for rain-fed conditions of north-east India.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/30/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-30april-2021/>

247. Which one of the following has become the first country to announce regulation of use of self-driving vehicles?

- (a) United States of America
- (b) Germany
- (c) Japan
- (d) United Kingdom

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **UK becomes first country to announce regulation of use of self-driving vehicles:**

- The UK has become the first country to announce regulation of the use of self-driving vehicles at slow speeds on motorways.
- The government will start with Automated Lane Keeping Systems (ALKS) – which use sensors and software to keep cars within a lane, allowing them to accelerate and brake without driver input.
- The use of ALKS would be restricted to motorways, at speeds under 60 km per hour.



Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/04/30/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-30april-2021/>

248. Consider the following statements:

1. The Tropical Forest Alliance 2020 was founded in 2012 at Rio+20.
2. The Global Carbon Project was established in 2001 by Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.
3. The International Platform on Sustainable Finance (IPSF) was launched in 2019 by World Bank.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- S3: The IPSF is part of the European Commission's ongoing work to support a global transition to a low-carbon, more resource-efficient and sustainable economy. Read more>> <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/04/13/quiz-2020-insights-current-affairs-quiz-13-april-2020/>
- S2: About Global Carbon Project:
 - Formed in 2001 to help the international science community to establish a common, mutually agreed knowledge base that supports policy debate and action to slow the rate of increase of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.
 - It is a Global Research Project of Future Earth and a research partner of the World Climate Research Programme.
 - Read more>> <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2019/12/05/global-carbon-project-2/>
- S1: The Tropical Forest Alliance 2020 was founded in 2012 at Rio+20

Refer: [http://climateinitiativesplatform.org/index.php/Tropical_Forest_Alliance_\(TFA\)](http://climateinitiativesplatform.org/index.php/Tropical_Forest_Alliance_(TFA))

249. Which one of the following **pairs (Convention: Objective)** is correctly matched?

- (a) Basel Convention: eliminate or restrict the production and use of persistent organic pollutants
- (b) Rotterdam Convention: control of transboundary movements of hazardous waste and their disposal
- (c) Stockholm Convention: international reductions in the production of chlorofluorocarbons
- (d) None of the above

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The **Stockholm Convention** is a global treaty that aims to protect human health and the environment from the effects of persistent organic pollutants (POPs). The Convention entered into force on May 17, 2004.
- The **Rotterdam Convention** is a multilateral treaty to promote shared responsibilities in relation to importation of hazardous chemicals.



- The overall goal of the **Basel Convention** is to protect human health and the environment against the adverse effects that may result from the generation, transboundary movements and management of hazardous and other wastes.
- The objective of the 1985 **Vienna Convention** is to preserve human health, and to protect the environment from any harmful effects of the depletion of the ozone layer.
- The **Minamata Convention on Mercury** is an international treaty designed to protect human health and the environment from anthropogenic emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2019/05/20/brs-conventions/>

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

1. It is a statutory organisation constituted under the Environment Protection Act, 1986.
2. It was entrusted with the powers and functions under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **S2: Click here for more info>>> <https://cpcb.nic.in/PollutionControlLaw.pdf>**
 - “.....Over the years, several amendments have also been made in the various existing statutes to meet the requirements of the unfolding environmental issues. **The Indian Forests Act, The Forests (Conservation) Act, The Factories Act, The Wild Life Protection Act, The Mines and Mineral (Regulation and Development) Act, The Industrial Development and Regulation Act and the Atomic Energy Act among others, have undergone such amendments. These Acts, being the responsibility of agencies other than Pollution Control Boards for implementation are not of day-to-day concern for the Boards** and, therefore, have not been covered in the present volume designed for ready reference by the functionaries of the Boards and others concerned with them. The size of the volume has also been consideration for the choice....”
- **S1: CPCB is a statutory organisation** which was constituted in September, 1974 under **the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.**
 - It was entrusted with the powers and functions under **the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.**
 - It serves as a field formation and also provides technical services to the Ministry of Environment and Forests under the provisions of **the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/09/24/about-the-central-pollution-control-board/>



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