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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 1st-Jan-2021

1. Consider the following statements regarding Subhash Chandra Bose.

1. He became the president of INC for two consecutive years.
2. The idea of the Indian National Army (INA) was first conceived by Subhash Chandra Bose.
3. He opposed the Dominion status as proposed in the Nehru Report.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- The idea of creating an army out of the Indian prisoners of war (POWs) was originally that of **Mohan Singh**, an Indian army officer who had decided not to join the retreating British army in Malaya.
- The Japanese handed over the Indian prisoners of war to Mohan Singh who tried to recruit them into an Indian National Army.
- **In 1938**, Subhash Chandra Bose became the president of INC at **Haripur session**.
- **In 1939**, Subhash Chandra Bose again became the president of INC by defeating Gandhi's candidate Pattabhi Sitaramayya.
- In 1928, Subhash Chandra Bose **opposed the Dominion status** as proposed in the Nehru Report.
- **About Azad Hind Government:**
 - Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose had announced the establishment of the provisional government of Azad Hind in occupied Singapore in
 - Known as Arzi Hukumat-e-Azad Hind, it was supported by the Axis powers of Imperial Japan, Nazi Germany, the Italian Social Republic, and their allies.
 - He had launched a struggle to free India from British rule under the banner of the provisional government-in exile during the latter part of the Second World War.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/01/subhash-chandra-bose/>

2. *“Detached clouds in the form of white, delicate filaments, mostly white patches or narrow bands. These clouds are always composed of ice crystals, and their transparent character depends upon the degree of separation of the crystals. As a rule, when these clouds cross the sun's disk they hardly diminish its brightness. When they are exceptionally thick they may veil its light and obliterate its contour.”*

The above given description refers to which of the following clouds?

- (a) Cirrus
- (b) Nimbostratus
- (c) Cumulonimbus
- (d) Altostratus

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- High-Level Clouds: Cirrus (Ci), Cirrocumulus (Cc), and Cirrostratus (Cs) are high level clouds. They are typically thin and white in appearance, but can appear in a magnificent array of colors when the sun is low on the horizon.



- Detached clouds in the form of white, delicate filaments, mostly white patches or narrow bands. They may have a fibrous (hair-like) and/or silky sheen appearance.
- **Cirrus clouds**
 - Cirrus clouds are always composed of ice crystals, and their transparent character depends upon the degree of separation of the crystals. As a rule, when these clouds cross the sun's disk they hardly diminish its brightness. When they are exceptionally thick they may veil its light and obliterate its contour.
 - Before sunrise and after sunset, cirrus is often colored bright yellow or red. These clouds are lit up long before other clouds and fade out much later; some time after sunset they become gray.
 - At all hours of the day Cirrus near the horizon is often of a yellowish color; this is due to distance and to the great thickness of air traversed by the rays of light.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/01/why-lightning-still-kills-so-many-indians/>

3. Anaemia is caused due to the deficiency of:

- (a) Oxygen
- (b) Iron
- (c) Sulphur
- (d) Calcium

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Context:**
 - Indian women and children are overwhelmingly anaemic, according to the National Family Health Survey 2019-20.
- **What is anaemia?**
 - The condition of having lower than normal number of red blood cells or quantity of haemoglobin.
 - It can make one feel tired, cold, dizzy, and irritable and short of breath, among other symptoms.
 - A diet which does not contain enough iron, folic acid or vitamin B12 is a common cause of anaemia.
- **Why is anaemia so high in the country?**
 - Iron-deficiency and vitamin B12-deficiency anaemia are the two common types of anaemia in India.
 - Among women, iron deficiency prevalence is higher than men due to menstrual iron losses and the high iron demands of a growing foetus during pregnancies.



- Lack of millets in the diet due to overdependence on rice and wheat, insufficient consumption of green and leafy vegetables, and dominance of packaged and processed foods which are low in nutrition could be the reasons behind the high prevalence of anaemia in India.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/01/what-is-anaemia/>

4. With reference to Global Housing Technology Challenge (GHTC), consider the following statements:

1. It is an initiative by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
 2. One of the component of the GHTC is 'Grand Expo and Conference'.
- 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:

- Key features of the Global Housing Technology Challenge (GHTC) are:
 - an initiative by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
 - Launched in 2019, the challenge is undertaken under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Urban (PMAY-U).
 - GHTC aims to fast-track the construction of affordable housing and meet the target of constructing 2 crore houses by 2022.
 - GHTC focuses on identifying and mainstreaming proven demonstrable technologies for lighthouse projects and spotting potential future technologies for incubation and acceleration support through ASHA (Affordable Sustainable Housing Accelerators) — India.
- **GHTC-India has following three components:**
 - Component 1 - Conduct of EXPO-Cum-Conference
 - Component 2 - Identifying Proven Demonstrable Technologies :Inducting suitable established technologies from across the globe to the Indian market through shortlisting and actual construction of Light House Projects
 - Component 3 - Establishment of Affordable Sustainable Housing Accelerators India (ASHA-India) for Indian technologies which have potential but not market ready yet. These technologies will be provided required support for development through Incubation Centres or field level application through Accelerator Workshops.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/01/global-housing-technology-challenge-3/>

5. What is 'SAHAYAK-NG', sometimes seen in the news?

- (a) India's indigenously developed unmanned aerial vehicle.
- (b) India's indigenously developed Air Droppable Container.
- (c) A defence collaboration between India and South Korea.
- (d) An Israeli radar system

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **SAHAYAK-NG:**

- SAHAYAK-NG is India's first indigenously designed and developed Air Droppable Container.



- It is a GPS aided air dropped container with the capacity to carry a payload of up to 50 kg and can be dropped from a heavy aircraft.
- The successful maiden test was conducted by the DRDO along with the Indian Navy.

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

6. Which of the following groups, represents neighboring countries of Argentina?

- Peru, Chile, Uruguay and Bolivia
- Paraguay, Peru, Chile and Uruguay
- Chile, Brazil, Uruguay and Peru
- Brazil, Bolivia, Paraguay and Chile

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **Argentina's legalisation of abortion:**

- Argentina's has legalised abortions up to the 14th week of pregnancy.
- Prior to this, women were forced to turn to illegal and unsafe procedures because abortion was against the law in Argentina.
- For women from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds, the scope of access to safe medical procedures for abortion was even narrower.



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

7. Consider the following statements about Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI).

- ICI provide an advance indication on production performance of industries of 'core' nature before the release of Index of Industrial Production.
- The Index is compiled and released by Central Statistics Office.
- Refinery Products are not part of eight core industries.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 1 and 2
- 2 and 3
- 1 and 3

Ans: (a)

Explanation: **Core Sector:**

- The objective of the ICI is to provide an advance indication on production performance of industries of 'core' nature before the release of **Index of Industrial Production (IIP)**. The Index is compiled and released by **Office of the Economic Adviser (OEA)**.
- The eight core sector industries include coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertiliser, steel, cement and electricity
- The eight core industries comprise nearly 40% of the weight of items included in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP).



- The eight Core Industries in decreasing order of their weightage: Refinery Products> Electricity> Steel> Coal> Crude Oil> Natural Gas> Cement> Fertilizers.

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

8. Consider the following statements

1. Bolivia is a landlocked country
 2. Brazil shares border with all South American countries except Chile
- 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: (a)

Explanation:

- **Bolivia is a landlocked country** bordered by Brazil, Paraguay, Argentina, Chile, and Peru.
- Paraguay is the only other landlocked country in South America
- Brazil shares border with all South American countries except Chile and Ecuador.



Refer: facts for prelims:

<https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/01/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-1-january-2021/>

9. Gaza strip, often seen in the news, shares border with which of the following countries/territories?

1. Israel
2. Egypt
3. Syria
4. Jordan

Select the correct answer using the code given below

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The Gaza Strip is a self-governing Palestinian territory on the eastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea. It borders Egypt on the southwest and Israel on the east and north. Gaza and the West Bank are claimed by the State of Palestine.





Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/12/30/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-30-december-2020/>

10. Consider the following statements

1. Spratly Island is located in East China Sea
2. Socotra Island is located in Indian Ocean
3. The Strait of Hormuz is a strait between the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman

Which of the statements given above 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:

- **The Spratly Islands are a disputed archipelago in the South China Sea.** Composed of islands, islets and cays and more than 100 reefs, sometimes grouped in submerged old atolls, the archipelago lies off the coasts of the Philippines, Malaysia, and southern Vietnam.
 - Named after the 19th-century British whaling captain Richard Spratly who sighted Spratly Island in 1843, the islands contain less than 2 km² (490 acres) of naturally occurring land area spread over an area of more than 425,000 km² (164,000 sq mi).
- **The Strait of Hormuz is a strait between the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman.** On the north coast lies Iran, and on the south coast the United Arab Emirates and Musandam, an exclave of Oman.
 - It provides the only sea passage from the Persian Gulf to the open ocean and is one of the world's most strategically important choke points
- **Socotra also called Soqatra, located between the Guardafui Channel and the Arabian Sea, is the largest of four islands in the Socotra archipelago.** The territory is located near major shipping routes and is officially part of Yemen, and had long been a subdivision of the Aden Governorate.
 - In 2004, it became attached to the Hadhramaut Governorate, which is much closer to the island than Aden (although the nearest governorate was the Al Mahrah Governorate). In 2013, the archipelago became its own governorate, the Socotra Governorate.

Refer: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/navy-sends-ship-to-socotra-island-in-yemen-to-rescue-38-stranded-indians/article24069098.ece>

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

11. Consider the following statements about Trans-fats.

1. Trans-fat is a type of unsaturated fat.
2. Trans fats also occur naturally.
3. Trans fats give food a desirable taste and texture.

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: (d)



Explanation:

- **Context:**
 - The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has capped **the amount of trans fatty acids (TFA) in oils and fats to 3% for 2021 and 2% by 2022 from the current permissible limit of 5% through** an amendment to **the Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restriction on Sales) Regulations.**
- **Background:**
 - The revised regulation applies to edible refined oils, vanaspati (partially hydrogenated oils), margarine, bakery shortenings and other mediums of cooking such as vegetable fat spreads and mixed fat spreads.
- **What are Trans fats?**
 - Trans fatty acids (TFAs) or Trans fats are the most harmful type of fats which can have much more adverse effects on our body than any other dietary constituent.
 - These fats are largely produced artificially but a small amount also occurs naturally. Thus in our diet, these may be present as Artificial TFAs and/ or Natural TFAs.
 - Artificial TFAs are formed when hydrogen is made to react with the oil to produce fats resembling pure ghee/butter.
 - In our diet the major sources of artificial TFAs are the partially hydrogenated vegetable oils (PHVO)/vanaspati/ margarine while the natural TFAs are present in meats and dairy products, though in small amounts.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/04/fssai-slashes-limit-for-transfat-levels-in-foods/>

12. Consider the following statements:

1. The Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 replaced the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954.
2. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is under the charge of Director General of Health Services in the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

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: (a)

Explanation:

- S1: The **FSSAI Act** took 8 older acts into one umbrella including **Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 Ministry of Health & Family Welfare**, Government of India is the Administrative Ministry for the implementation of FSSAI
- S2: **The Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is appointed by Government of India.** The Chairperson is in the rank of Secretary to Government of India. It is not under the charge of Director General of Health services.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/04/fssai-slashes-limit-for-transfat-levels-in-foods/>



13. Consider the following statements regarding the Financial Stability Board (FSB):

1. It is hosted and funded by International Monetary Fund (IMF).
2. It monitors and makes recommendations about the global financial system.

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:

- S2: The Financial Stability Board (FSB) is an international body that monitors and makes recommendations about the global financial system.
- S1: It was **established after the G20 London summit in April 2009** as a successor to the Financial Stability Forum (FSF). The Board includes all G20 major economies, FSF members, and the European Commission. **Hosted and funded by the Bank for International Settlements**, the board is based in Basel, Switzerland.
- **Context:**
- **The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)** has become an Associate Member of the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO).
- **IFSC in India:**
 - The first International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) in the country has been set up at the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT) in Gandhinagar.
 - To regulate such institutions, the government established IFSCA on April 27 last year with its head office in Gandhinagar.
 - In December 2019, Parliament passed a bill to set up a unified authority for regulating all financial activities at IFSCs in the country.
- **About IOSCO:**
 - It is the international body that **brings together the world's securities regulators** and is recognized as the global standard setter for the securities sector.
 - IOSCO develops, implements and promotes adherence to internationally recognized standards for securities regulation.
 - It works intensively with **the G20 and the Financial Stability Board (FSB)** on the global regulatory reform agenda.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/04/international-organization-of-securities-commissions-iosco/>

14. "Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI)" works under the administrative control of:

- (a) Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
- (b) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- (c) Both (a) and (b)
- (d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Context:**
 - In a significant development, the **Drug Controller General of India (DCGI)** has formally approved Serum Institute and Bharat Biotech vaccines for restricted emergency use against COVID-19 in India.



- **Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI)** is a department of the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization of the Government of India responsible for approval of **licences of specified categories of drugs such as blood and blood products, IV fluids, vaccines, and sera in India.**
 - Drugs Controller General of India, comes **under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.**
 - DCGI also sets standards for manufacturing, sales, import, and distribution of drugs in India.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/04/serum-institutes-covishield-vs-bharat-biotechs-covaxin/>

15. Consider the following statements:

1. Within the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) regulates pharmaceutical and medical devices, under the gamut of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
2. The Drugs Prices Control Order (DPCO) issued by the Government of India under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 to regulate the prices of drugs.

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: In India, the **Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO)** is the **national regulatory body** for Indian pharmaceuticals and medical devices.
 - Within the CDSCO, the **Drug Controller General of India (DCGI)** regulates pharmaceutical and medical devices, under the gamut of **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.** The DCGI is advised by the Drug Technical Advisory Board (DTAB) and the Drug Consultative Committee (DCC).
 - What is National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority and its role ?
 - <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2019/05/20/nppa-caps-prices-of-9-non-scheduled-drugs/>
- S2: **What is the “Drugs (Prices Control) Order (DPCO)”?**
 - The Drugs Prices Control Order is an order issued by the Government of India under **3 of Essential Commodities Act, 1955** to regulate the prices of drugs.
 - The Order inter alia provides **the list of price controlled drugs, procedures for fixation of prices of drugs, method of implementation of prices fixed by Govt., penalties for contravention of provisions etc.**
 - For the purpose of implementing provisions of DPCO, powers of Govt. have been vested in NPPA.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/04/serum-institutes-covishield-vs-bharat-biotechs-covaxin/>

16. Which one of the following is/are correctly describe/describes the objective ACROSS Scheme?

- (a) Provide a reliable weather and climate forecast for betterment of society.
- (b) Develop High-resolution models for the ocean forecast and reanalysis systems.



- (c) Improve Seasonal and Intra-seasonal Monsoon Forecast.
 (d) All of the above.

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Context:**
 - The scheme was recently reviewed by **the Ministry of Earth Sciences**.
- **ACROSS Scheme:** provide a reliable weather and climate forecast for betterment of society, the scheme will aim at improving skill of weather and climate forecast through sustained observations, intensive R & D.
- Option 'b' : O-SMART Scheme: Develop High-resolution models for the ocean forecast and reanalysis systems
- Option 'c': Monsoon Mission of India: To improve Seasonal and Intra-seasonal Monsoon Forecast.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/04/atmosphere-climate-research-modelling-observing-systems-services-across-scheme-2/>

17. With reference to Political Life and Social Service of Mannathu Padmanabhan, consider the following statements:

1. He took part in the agitation against Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer's administration in Travancore (Kerala).
2. He opened his family temple for everyone, irrespective of caste distinction.
3. He was instrumental in the formation of Kerala Congress, the first regional party in India.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **Mannathu Padmanabhan:**

- He was an Indian social reformer and freedom fighter from Kerala.
- He lived from January 2, 1878 – February 25, 1970.
- He took part in anti-untouchability agitations and advocated opening temples for people of all castes.
- He also participated in the Vaikom Satyagraha.
- He is also known for his founding of the Nair Service Society (NSS).
- S1: He became a member of the Indian National Congress in 1946 and took part in the agitation against Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer's administration in Travancore. As the first president of Travancore Devaswom Board he revitalised many temples which had almost ceased to function.
- S2: He fought for social equality, the first phase being the Vaikom Satyagraha, demanding the public roads near the temple at Vaikom be opened to low caste Hindus. He took part in the Vaikom(1924) and Guruvayoor(1931) temple-entry Satyagrahas; the anti-untouchability agitations. He opened his family temple for everyone, irrespective of caste distinction.
- S3: In 1964 he was instrumental in the formation of Kerala Congress, the first regional party in India.

Refer: facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/04/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-4-january-2021/>



18. WHO's REPLACE campaign is related to
- Replace all petrol and diesel vehicles to Electric Vehicles by 2030.
 - Replace all cooling systems in government buildings with energy efficient cooling system.
 - Provide protein rich food to children in the government schools.
 - Eliminate industrially produced trans-fatty acids from the global food supply.

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- WHO released REPLACE, a step-by-step guide for the elimination of industrially-produced trans-fatty acids from the global food supply.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/04/fssai-slashes-limit-for-transfat-levels-in-foods/>

19. Consider the following statements regarding International Financial Services Centres Authority.

- International Financial Services Centres Authority is a statutory regulatory body under the Department of Economic Affairs to regulate all financial services in International Financial Services Centres (IFSCs) in the country.
- The authority exercise the powers of RBI in respect of financial services performed in the international financial services centres in the country.
- IFSCA has members each nominated from RBI, IRDAI, SEBI and PFRDA.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- 1 and 2
- 1 and 3
- 2 and 3
- 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (d)

Explanation: About the International Financial Services Centres Authority:

- It is a statutory body established in 2020.
- It works under the **Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance**.
- Headquartered in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- The Authority will function as a unified regulator and is empowered to exercise the powers of RBI, SEBI, IRDAI and PFRDA in respect of financial services, financial products and financial institutions performed/located in the international financial services centres in the country.
- Besides the Chairman, **IFSCA has a member each nominated from RBI, IRDAI, SEBI and PFRDA**. There are also two members from the Central Government and full-time or part time members in the Authority.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/04/international-organization-of-securities-commissions-iosco/>

20. Consider the following statements regarding Special economic zones (SEZs) in India.

- The SEZ Act 2005 envisages key role for the State Governments in Export Promotion and creation of related infrastructure in SEZs.
- All laws of India are applicable in SEZs unless specifically exempted as per the SEZ Act/ Rules.
- SEZs are exempted from Minimum Alternate tax (MAT).

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- 1 and 3
- 2 and 3
- 1 and 2



d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- A special economic zone (SEZ) is an area in which the business and trade laws are different from the rest of the country. SEZs are located within a country's national borders, and their aims include increased trade balance, employment, increased investment, job creation and effective administration.
- The main objectives of the SEZ Scheme is generation of additional economic activity, promotion of exports of goods and services, promotion of investment from domestic and foreign sources, creation of employment opportunities along with the development of infrastructure facilities. **All laws of India are applicable in SEZs unless specifically exempted as per the SEZ Act/ Rules.** Sales in the Domestic Tariff Area from the SEZ units are treated as if the goods are being imported and are subject to payment of applicable customs duties.
- SEZs were introduced to India in 2000, following the already successful SEZ model used in China. Prior to their introduction, India relied on export processing zones (EPZs) which failed to make an impact on foreign investors. By 2005, all EPZs had been converted to SEZs.
- The SEZ Act 2005 envisages key role for the State Governments in Export Promotion and creation of related infrastructure.
- **S3: Exemption from Minimum Alternate tax (MAT) was withdrawn w.e.f. 1.4.2012.**
 - **Govt plans to remove minimum alternate tax on SEZs, boost exports:** https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/govt-plans-to-remove-minimum-alternate-tax-on-sezs-boost-exports-119102501495_1.html

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/04/international-organization-of-securities-commissions-iosco/>

RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 5th-Jan-2021

21. Consider the following statements:

1. The president of India can summon a session of parliament at such a place as he/she thinks fit.
2. The constitution of India provides for three sessions of the parliament in a year but it is not mandatory to conduct all the sessions
3. There is no minimum number of days that the parliament is required to meet in a year

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **S1 and S2:** Article 85(1) of the Constitution empowers the President to summon each House of Parliament to meet at such time and place as he thinks fit, but six months shall not intervene between its last sitting in one Session and the date appointed for its first sitting in the next Session.
- **S3:** This is correct, refer to the explanation above.



- <http://legislative.gov.in/sites/default/files/coi-4March2016.pdf>
- **Constitutional Provisions:**
 - Article 85 requires that there should not be a gap of more than six months between two sessions of Parliament.
 - The Constitution does not specify when or for how many days Parliament should meet.

Refer: <http://legislative.gov.in/sites/default/files/coi-4March2016.pdf>

22. Consider the following statements about Question hour?

1. It denotes the time immediately following the Zero Hour in both Houses of Parliament.
2. It is mentioned in the Rules of Procedure of the House.
3. During this time, the members ask questions and the ministers usually give answers.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **What is Question hour?**
 - The **first hour** of every parliamentary sitting is termed as **Question hour**.
 - It is mentioned in the **Rules of Procedure of the House**.
 - During this time, the members ask questions and the ministers usually give answers
 - Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/03/17/what-are-starred-questions-2/>

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/05/budget-session/>

23. With reference to Indian Parliament, which one of the following is not correct?

- (a) The Appropriation Bill must be passed by both the Houses of Parliament before it can be enacted into law
- (b) No Money shall be withdrawn from the consolidated Fund of India except under the appropriation made by the Appropriation Act
- (c) Finance Bill is required for proposing new taxes but not other Bill/Act is required for making changes in the rates of taxes which are already under operation.
- (d) No Money Bill can be introduced except on the recommendation of the President.

Ans: (a)

Explanation: here the directive word is not correct!!

- Context:
 - The **budget session of Parliament** is expected to be held under similar COVID-19 safety measures and restrictions, including strict physical distancing norms, that were in place for the monsoon session.
 - So far, there is no clarity on whether the **Question Hour** which was suspended during the monsoon session as part of the COVID-19 restrictions will resume in the budget session.
- According to Article 114 of the Constitution, no amount can be withdrawn from the consolidated fund of India without the authorisation from Parliament or legislatures of the states. Due to this, the Parliament, as well as the state Assemblies need to pass appropriation bills as a part of the Budget exercise to be



able to withdraw money from the consolidated fund of Union or state to spend it on various public expenditure programmes and to run day-to-day affairs of government.

- Appropriation Bill can be defined as a kind of Money Bill passed annually (or at various times of the year) providing for the withdrawal or appropriation from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India, of moneys, voted by Lok Sabha and moneys charged on the Consolidated Fund for the services of a financial year or a part of a financial year.
- Appropriation Bill, after it is passed by Lok Sabha is sent to the Rajya Sabha as Appropriation Bill and is certified by the Speaker as a Money Bill. Rajya Sabha has the power to recommend amendments in the Finance Bill. However, it is for Lok Sabha to accept or reject the recommendations.
- Therefore, Appropriation Bill is a Money Bill, RS has only recommendatory power and need not be passed by RS.
- Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/03/17/appropriation-bill/>

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/05/budget-session/>

24. Consider the following statements with reference to “Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960”:

1. This Act restricts the exhibition and training of performing animals as per the list maintained by the state government.
2. The Animal Welfare Board of India was formed under this Act.

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:

- Stat2: **Established in 1962 under Section 4 of The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960**, the Animal Welfare Board of India is a statutory advisory body advising the Government of India on animal welfare laws, and promotes animal welfare in the country of India.
- Stat1: Section 22 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 restricts the exhibition and training of performing animals **as per the list maintained by the central government.**
- Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/07/22/survey-on-animals-in-circuses/>

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/05/sc-asks-government-to-repeal-the-prevention-of-cruelty-to-animals-care-and-maintenance-of-case-property-animals-rules-2017/>

25. Who designates any organisation as religious denomination for the purpose of Article 26?

- (a) Supreme Court
- (b) Parliament
- (c) State legislatures
- (d) President

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- Supreme Court held that a religious denomination must satisfy three conditions:



- It should be a collection of individuals who have a system of beliefs (doctrines) which they regard as conducive to their spiritual well-being
- It should have a common organisation
- It should be designated by a distinctive name
- Under the above criteria, the Supreme Court held that the 'Ramakrishna Mission' and 'Ananda Marga' are religious denominations within the Hindu religion. It also held that Aurobindo Society is not a religious denomination.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/05/3-states-3-anti-conversion-laws-whats-similar-whats-different/>

26. Recently the 'Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action' (JCPOA) was in news, is commonly referred as:

- (a) USA Nuclear Deal
- (b) Iran Nuclear Deal
- (c) Iraq Nuclear Deal
- (d) European Nuclear Deal

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **What is the iran nuclear deal?**

- Iran agreed to rein in its nuclear programme in a 2015 deal struck with the US, UK, Russia, China, France and Germany.
- Under the **Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPoA)** Tehran agreed to significantly cut its stores of centrifuges, enriched uranium and heavy-water, all key components for nuclear weapons.
- The JCPOA established the Joint Commission, with the negotiating parties all represented, to monitor implementation of the agreement.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/05/iran-begins-enriching-uranium-in-new-breach-of-nuclear-deal/>

27. Consider the following statements about International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA):

1. The IAEA is an autonomous international organization within the United Nations system.
 2. It reports to both the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council.
- 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: **About International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA):**

- The IAEA is an **autonomous international** organization within the United Nations system
- Set up as the world's "Atoms for Peace" organization in 1957.
- Reports to both the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council.
- Headquarters in Vienna, Austria.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/05/iran-begins-enriching-uranium-in-new-breach-of-nuclear-deal/>

28. India has officially declared itself free from which of the following diseases?

1. Chikungunya
2. Yaws



3. Avian Influenza (bird flu)

4. Smallpox

Select the correct answer code:

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- India is not free from Chikungunya disease which is carried mainly by mosquitoes.
- India has become the first country in the world to get the Yaws-free certificate by the WHO.
- India has officially declared itself free from highly contagious Avian Influenza (H5N1) or bird flu and has notified the same to the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE).
 - **About Avian influenza (bird flu):**
 - It is a viral infection that can infect not only birds, but also humans and other animals. Most forms of the virus are restricted to birds.
 - It is a highly contagious viral disease affecting several species of food-producing birds (chickens, turkeys, quails, guinea fowl, etc.), as well as pet birds and wild birds.
 - Occasionally mammals, including humans, may contract avian influenza.
 - Influenza A viruses are classified into subtypes based on two surface proteins, Hemagglutinin (HA) and Neuraminidase (NA).
 - **Influenza A(H5N8) virus:**
 - According to Paris-based World Organisation for Animal Health, H5N8 avian influenza is a disease of birds, caused by Type “A” influenza viruses, which can affect several species of domestic poultry, such as chickens, turkeys, quails, guinea fowl, ducks, as well as pet birds, wild migratory birds and water fowl.
- Smallpox was declared by WHO to be eradicated in 1979 from the World.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/05/bird-flu/>

29. In the context of which of the following Government of India ordered the thermal power plants to install Flue Gas Desulphurization (FGD) units?

- (a) Cut emissions of toxic carbon dioxide.
- (b) Reducing the global warming.
- (c) Cut emissions of toxic sulphur dioxide.
- (d) All of the above

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Context:**
 - The Ministry of Power has proposed pushing back deadlines for adoption of new emission norms by coal fired power plants, saying “an unworkable time schedule” would burden utilities and lead to an increase in power tariffs.
- **Details:**
 - The Centre had initially set **a 2017 deadline for thermal power plants to comply with emissions standards for installing Flue Gas**



Desulphurization (FGD) units that cut emissions of toxic sulphur dioxide.

- That was later changed to varying deadlines for different regions ending in 2022. Under the latest proposal, no new dates have been set.
- The target should be to maintain uniform ambient air quality across the country and not uniform emission norms for thermal power plants.
- **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.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/05/flue-gas-desulphurization/>

30. Consider the following statements regarding Pangolins.

1. Pangolins are the only mammals wholly-covered in scales and they use those scales to protect themselves from predators in the wild.
2. They are one of the most trafficked mammals in Asia.
3. Indian Pangolin is listed under Schedule I Part I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

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: (d)

Explanation: **Key Facts:**

- Pangolin is **the only scaly mammal on the planet.**
- According to CITES, it is also **the most illegally traded vertebrate within its class (Mammalia).**
- Of the eight species of pangolin worldwide, two are found in India. They are **Chinese pangolin, mostly found in northeast India and Indian pangolin.**
- Chinese pangolin has been listed as “critically endangered”.
- Indian pangolin (*Manis crassicaudata*) has been listed as “endangered”.
- It is also a **Schedule I category** protected animal, under the Wildlife Protection Act (1972).

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/05/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-5-january-2021/>

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31. It was commissioned in 1660 by the Mughal emperor Aurangzeb in the memory of his first and chief wife Dilras Banu Begum. The structure, known as the ‘Taj of the Deccan’ because of its striking resemblance to the Taj Mahal. It is considered to be a symbol of Aurangzeb’s ‘conjugal fidelity’. It is

- (a) Ibrahim Roza
- (b) Shahzadi Ka Maqbara
- (c) Bibi Ka Maqbara
- (d) Maqbara Yadgare Mohabbat Tajammuli Begum

Ans: (c)



Explanation:

- India, the homeland of the original Taj, has several replicas spread across the nation:
- **Bibi Ka Maqbara** in **Aurangabad, Maharashtra**; also called as the 'Taj of the Deccan' was built by Shah Jahan's own grandson, Aurangzeb as an attempt to outdo the original Taj.
- **Shahzadi Ka Maqbara**, in Chota Imambara, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- **Maqbara Yadgare Mohabbat Tajammuli Begum**, also known as Mini Taj Mahal in Bulandshahr district, Uttar Pradesh was built by a poor pensioner Faizul Hasan Quadri, in memory of his wife Late Tajammuli Begum in his nondescript village in Northern India.
- Context:
 - There is a long standing demand of the Shiv Sena for renaming Aurangabad city in Maharashtra as Sambhaji Nagar.
- **The city and its name:**
 - Aurangabad was built in 1610 by **Malik Ambar of the Nijamshahi dynasty**.
 - It's known for the 17th-century marble **Bibi ka Maqbara** shrine, styled on the Taj Mahal.
 - It was renamed Aurangabad by Mughal emperor Aurangzeb when he made it his capital.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/06/why-stakes-are-high-in-renaming-of-aurangabad-as-sambhaji-nagar/>

32. Which of the following statements is/are incorrect regarding Judicial Review?

1. Indian Constitution confers the power of judicial review to Supreme Court only.
2. The purpose of the judicial review is to review constitutional amendments only.
3. Judicial review is a part of the basic structure of the constitution.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (a)

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

- **Judicial review** is the power of Judiciary to review any act or order of Legislative and Executive wings and to pronounce upon the constitutional validity when challenged by the affected person.
- In India the Constitution confers the power of judicial review on the judiciary (both the Supreme Court as well as High Courts). Further, the Supreme Court has declared the power of judicial review as a basic feature of the Constitution or an element of the basic structure of the Constitution. Hence, the power of judicial review cannot be curtailed or excluded even by a constitutional amendment.
- **Judicial review can be classified into the following three categories:**
 - Judicial review of constitutional amendments.
 - Judicial review of legislation of the Parliament and State Legislatures and subordinate legislations.
 - Judicial review of administrative action of the Union and State and authorities under the state.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/06/judicial-review/>



33. Consider the following pairs:

<i>Towns/Cities sometimes mentioned</i>	<i>Country in news</i>
1. Doha	Bahrain
2. Dubai	Saudi Arabia
3. Manama	Kuwait

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

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **here the directive word is not correctly matched!!**

- Doha – Capital of Qatar
- Dubai – City in the United Arab Emirates
- Manama – Capital of Bahrain

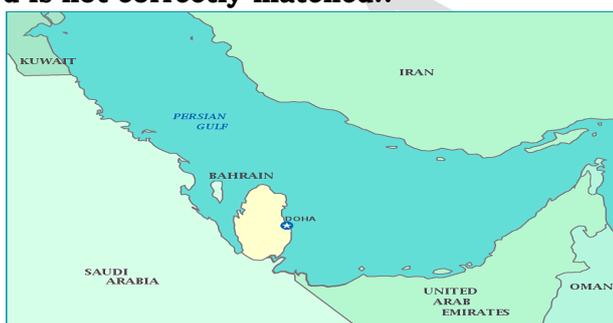
- **Context:**

- Gulf leaders have signed a **“solidarity and stability” deal** after leaders of

Saudi Arabia and Qatar publicly embraced, bringing **Doha back into the regional fold after a three-year-long rift.**

- **What was the dispute?**

- Saudi Arabia had led a coalition of countries in the Gulf and beyond to cut ties and transport links with Qatar in June 2017, charging that **it was too close to Iran and backed radical Islamist groups allegations that Doha denied.**



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/06/gulf-leaders-sign-deal-to-end-years-long-dispute/>

34. Which of the following are the critical components of Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY) scheme.

1. Reduction in the aggregate technical and commercial (AT&C) losses.
2. Timely reduction of tariffs.
3. Elimination of the gap between average per unit of cost and revenue realised.

Select the correct answer code:

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Almost five years after the launch of the **Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY)**, there are indications that the power sector is once again in trouble. Not only have losses of state-owned distribution companies (discoms) risen, but their dues for power purchases have also surged.
- The UDAY scheme, which involved state governments taking over the debt of discoms, had three critical components: **A reduction in the aggregate**



technical and commercial (AT&C) losses, timely revision of tariffs, and elimination of the gap between average per unit of cost and revenue realised.

- While progress has been made on some of these fronts, it hasn't been in line with the targets laid out under UDAY. AT&C losses have declined in some states, but not to the extent envisaged. Under UDAY, discoms were to bring down AT&C losses to 15 per cent by FY19. Similarly, **while some states have raised power tariffs, the hikes have not been sufficient as political considerations prevailed over commercial decisions.** As a result, the gap between the average cost per unit of power and the revenue realised has not declined in the manner envisaged, forcing discoms to reduce their power purchases and delay payments to power producers. This in turn has impaired the ability of power generating companies to service their debt, causing stress to the banking sector.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/06/kochi-mangaluru-lng-pipeline/>

35. Consider the following statements.

1. The right to carry on trade or business using the Internet are constitutionally protected.
2. In India, Information Technology Act, 2000 is the only law that deal with suspension of Internet services.
3. Section 144 CrPC gives power to a District Magistrate to block the internet access.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- The Supreme Court declared that the fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression and the right to carry on trade or business using the Internet are constitutionally protected. The Information Technology Act, 2000, the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC), 1973 and the Telegraph Act, 1885 are the three laws that deal with suspension of Internet services.
- What is Section 144?
 - It gives power to a District Magistrate, a sub-divisional Magistrate or any other Executive Magistrate on behalf of the State Government to issue an order to an individual or the general public in a particular place or area to "abstain from a certain act" or "to take certain order with respect to certain property in his possession or under his management". Section 144 also empowers the authorities to block the internet access.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/06/economic-impact-due-to-internet-shutdowns-over-double-of-20-others/>

36. The prime objective of the 'Sagarmala project' is to

- a) Aid the construction of world-class port facilities in Indian Ocean littoral nations
- b) Develop naval bases in Indian Ocean littoral nations
- c) Promote port-led direct and indirect development in India
- d) Thwart China's rising geo-political ambitions in the Indo-Pacific

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The prime objective of the Sagarmala project is to promote port-led direct and indirect development and to provide infrastructure to transport goods to and



from ports quickly, efficiently and cost-effectively. Therefore, the Sagarmala Project shall, inter alia, aim to develop access to new development regions with intermodal solutions and promotion of the optimum modal split, enhanced connectivity with main economic centres and beyond through expansion of rail, inland water, coastal and road services.

- **Sagarmala Seaplane Services:**
 - To be launched by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways.
 - It will be launched under a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) framework through prospective airline operators.
 - The project execution and implementation would be through the Sagarmala Development Company Ltd (SDCL), which is under the administrative control of the Ministry.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/06/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-6-january-2021/>

37. Which of the following **pairs (Dams: State located)** is/are correctly matched?

- (a) Irai Dam: Maharashtra
- (b) Tehri Dam: Himachal Pradesh
- (c) Khindsi dam: Gujarat
- (d) All of the above

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- Tehri Dam: Uttarakhand
- Khindsi dam: Maharashtra



Refer: Facts for Prelims:

<https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/06/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-6-january-2021/>

38. 'Trifood Parks' project is being implemented by:

- (a) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)
- (b) Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)
- (c) Food Corporation of India (FCI)
- (d) None of the above

Ans: (d)

Explanation: TRIFOOD Parks to be set up in Madhya Pradesh.

- **It is a joint initiative of TRIFED (under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs) and the Ministry of Food Processing.**
- TRIFOOD Parks are food processing centres aiming at promoting value addition to minor forest produce.
- It was launched under the Van Dhan Yojana in 2020.
- The parks procure raw materials from the Van Dhan Kendras and process them to be sold across the country through Tribes India outlets.



- The minimum support price for minor forest produce is fixed by the Tribal Affairs Ministry and it is revised every three years by a pricing cell constituted under the Ministry.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/06/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-6-january-2021/>

39. Consider the following statements about Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED):

1. It was established in 1987.
 2. It is under the administrative control of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- 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: **Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED):**

- It is the national level cooperative body mandated to bring about socio-economic development of tribals of the country by institutionalizing the trade of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) & Surplus Agricultural Produce (SAP) collected/cultivated by them.
 - It was established in 1987.
 - It is under the administrative control of the **Ministry of Tribal Affairs**.
 - It mainly undertakes two functions viz. Minor Forest Produce (MFP) development and Retail Marketing and Development.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/06/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-6-january-2021/>

40. Consider the following statements regarding Van Dhan Scheme.

1. The Van Dhan Scheme is an initiative of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region and TRIFED.
2. It seeks to improve tribal incomes through value addition of tribal products.
3. The aggregation of tribal produce would be done by SHGs.

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 Van Dhan Scheme is an initiative of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and TRIFED.** It was launched on 14th April, 2018 and seeks to improve tribal incomes through value addition of tribal products.
- The scheme will be implemented through Ministry of Tribal Affairs as Nodal Department at the Central Level and TRIFED as Nodal Agency at the National Level. At State level, the State Nodal Agency for MFPs and the District collectors are envisaged to play a pivot role in scheme implementation at grassroot level. Locally the Kendras are proposed to be managed by a Managing Committee (an SHG) consisting of representatives of Van Dhan SHGs in the cluster.



- At unit level, aggregation of produce would be done by SHGs having about 30 members each forming Van Dhan Vikas 'Samuh'. The SHGs would also undertake primary value addition of the MFPs using equipment such as small cutting and sieving tools, decorticator, dryer, packaging tool etc based on MFPs available in the area.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/06/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-6-january-2021/>

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41. Consider the following statements regarding Basavanna

1. Basavanna rejected gender or social discrimination, superstitions and rituals.
2. He was the founding saint of the Lingayat sect.

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: **Basavanna:**

- Basavanna was a 12th-century philosopher, statesman, Kannada poet and a social reformer during the reign of the Kalachuri-dynasty king Bijjala I in Karnataka, India.
- **Basavanna spread social awareness through his poetry, popularly known as Vachanaas. Basavanna rejected gender or social discrimination, superstitions and rituals.**
- He introduced new public institutions such as the Anubhava Mantapa (or, the "hall of spiritual experience"), which welcomed men and women from all socio-economic backgrounds to discuss spiritual and mundane questions of life, in open.
- As a leader, he developed and inspired a new devotional movement named Virashaivas, or "ardent, heroic worshippers of Shiva". This movement shared its roots in the ongoing Tamil Bhakti movement, particularly the Shaiva Nayanars traditions, over the 7th- to 11th-century.
- Basava championed devotional worship that rejected temple worship and rituals led by Brahmins, and replaced it with personalized direct worship of Shiva through practices such as individually worn icons and symbols like a small linga.
- **He is the founding saint of the Lingayat sect.**
 - Basaveshwara is the first Kannadiga in whose honour a commemorative coin has been minted in recognition of his social reforms.
 - In November 2015, the Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi inaugurated the statue of Basaveshwara along the bank of the river Thames at Lambeth in London.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/07/foundation-stone-laid-for-new-anubhava-mantapa/>



42. The spread of Bhakti movement was chronological in terms of language used in the given region. Arrange the following from the earliest towards the latest:

1. Kannada
2. Gujarati
3. Bengali
4. Kashmiri

Select the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- The spread of Bhakti movement through Kannada and Marathi happened at the same time in 11th Century, after the movement began in Tamil in 5-6th Century only. And then it is Gujarati in the 12th century. Afterwards, the sequential order is as follows: Kashmiri, Bengali, Assamese, Manipuri, Oriya, Maithili, Braj, Avadhi (the last three languages come under the umbrella language, Hindi) and other languages of India.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/07/foundation-stone-laid-for-new-anubhava-mantapa/>

43. Consider the following statements

1. Any Court as given by Parliament can issue writs
 2. Before the enactment of Constitution, High Courts were not allowed to issue writs
- 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:

- **Parliament (under Article 32) can empower any other court to issue these writs.** Since no such provision has been made so far, only the Supreme Court and the high courts can issue the writs and not any other court.
- Before 1950, only the High Courts of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras had the power to issue the writs.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/07/how-horizontal-vertical-quotas-work-what-supreme-court-said/>

44. Consider the following statements regarding National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP).

1. The Union Government unveiled a ₹102 lakh crore national infrastructure pipeline that will be implemented in 5 years as part of Government's spending push in the infrastructure sector.
2. The central government and state governments would have an equal share of 50% each in the NIP.
3. During the fiscals 2020 to 2025, sectors such as Energy, Roads, Urban, and Railways amount to around 70% of the projected capital expenditure in infrastructure in India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 2 and 3



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

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **About NIP:**

- In the budget speech of 2019-2020, Finance Minister announced an outlay of Rs 100 lakh Crore for infrastructure projects over the next 5 years.
- NIP is a first-of-its-kind initiative to provide world-class infrastructure across the country and improve the quality of life for all citizens.
- It will improve project preparation, attract investments (both domestic & foreign) into infrastructure, and will be crucial for attaining the target of becoming a \$5 trillion economy by FY 2025.
- Covers both economic and social infrastructure projects.
- **Important recommendations and observations made by Atanu Chakraborty taskforce:**
 - Investment needed: ₹111 lakh crore over the next five years (2020-2025) to build infrastructure projects and drive economic growth.
 - **Energy, roads, railways and urban projects are estimated to account for the bulk of projects (around 70%).**
 - The centre (39 percent) and state (40 percent) are expected to have an almost equal share in implementing the projects, while the private sector has 21 percent share.
 - Aggressive push towards asset sales.
 - Monetisation of infrastructure assets.
 - Setting up of development finance institutions.
 - Strengthening the municipal bond market.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/07/national-infrastructure-pipeline-nip-2/>

45. Consider the following statements about Securities and Exchange Board of India.

1. SEBI is a statutory body under the provisions of Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992.
2. It is a quasi-legislative, quasi-executive and quasi-judicial body.
3. There is an appeal process against a SEBI order to create accountability and the first appeal lies directly to the Supreme Court.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **About Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)**

- S1: It is the regulator for the securities market in India. It was established in 1988 and given statutory powers on 30 January 1992 through the SEBI Act, 1992.
- S2: If an entity wants to appeal against a Sebi order, it approaches Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT), which is a three-member bench. A second appeal lies directly to the Supreme Court.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/07/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-7-january-2021/>



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

1. It is an Non-profit and non-governmental body
2. It was found on the initiative of the G9
3. India was one of the founding member of FATF

Select the Incorrect statements using the code below:

- (a) 1 and 2
- (b) 2 and 3
- (c) 1 and 3
- (d) all of the above

Ans: (d)

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

- Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is an inter-governmental body, established in 1989 on the initiative of the G7.
- It is responsible for setting global standards on **anti-money laundering** (AML) and **combating the financing of terrorism** (CFT).
- India became Observer at FATF in the year 2006. Since then, India has been working towards full-fledged Membership of FATF.
- As a part of its Membership, a joint FATF / Asia Pacific Group Mutual Evaluation Team visited India in November-December, 2009 for on-site assessment of Indias compliance with the 40+9 Recommendations of FATF.
- FATF Plenary adopted the Mutual Evaluation Report on India on 24th June 2010 and on 25th June 2010 admitted India as 34th Country Member of FATF.
- **SEBI moots entry norms to set up stock exchanges:**
 - The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has floated a discussion paper on review of ownership and governance norms to facilitate new entrants to set up stock exchanges and depositories, otherwise called as market infrastructure institutions (MIIs).
- **As per the key proposals:**
 - A resident promoter setting up an MII may hold up to 100% shareholding, which will be brought down to not more than (either 51% or 26%) in 10 years.
 - **A foreign promoter from Financial Action Task Force FATF member jurisdictions setting up an MII may hold up to 49% shareholding, which shall be brought down to not more than (either 26% or 15%) in 10 years.**
 - Foreign individuals or entities from other than FATF member jurisdictions may acquire or hold up to 10% in an MII.
 - Any person other than the promoter may acquire or hold less than 25% shareholding.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/07/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-7-january-2021/>

47. With reference to Financial Action Task Force (FATF), consider the following statements:

1. FATF is the global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog.
2. As a policy-making body, the FATF works to generate the necessary political will to bring about national legislative and regulatory reforms in the areas of money laundering and terrorist financing.
3. The FATF monitors countries to ensure they implement the FATF Standards fully and effectively, and holds countries to account that do not comply.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?



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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is the global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog.** The inter-governmental body sets international standards that aim to prevent these illegal activities and the harm they cause to society. As a policy-making body, the FATF works to generate the necessary political will to bring about national legislative and regulatory reforms in these areas.
- With more than 200 countries and jurisdictions committed to implementing them. The FATF has developed the FATF **Recommendations**, or FATF Standards, which ensure a co-ordinated global response to prevent organised crime, corruption and terrorism. They help authorities go after the money of criminals dealing in illegal drugs, human trafficking and other crimes. The FATF also works to stop funding for weapons of mass destruction.
- **The FATF reviews money laundering and terrorist financing** techniques and continuously strengthens its standards to address new risks, such as the regulation of virtual assets, which have spread as cryptocurrencies gain popularity. **The FATF monitors countries to ensure they implement the FATF Standards fully and effectively, and holds countries to account that do not comply.**

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/07/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-7-january-2021/>

48. Consider the following statements:

1. Rashtriya Kamdhenu Aayog is constituted by NITI Aayog
 2. The Aayog is a high powered permanent apex advisory body
- 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 the Rashtriya Kamdhenu Aayog:**

- Constituted in 2019, the Aayog is a high powered permanent apex advisory body with the mandate to help the Central Government to develop appropriate programmes for conservation, sustainable development and genetic upgradation of indigenous breeds of cows.
- It comes under the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying.
- Rashtriya Kamdhenu Aayog will function as an integral part of Rashtriya Gokul Mission.
- **Kamdhenu Gau-Vigyan Prachar-Prasar Exam:**
 - Announced by **Rastriya Kamdhenu Aayog**.
 - The exam has been initiated for raising mass awareness about Indigenous cows among young students and all citizens.
 - It will also help make study materials about cow science available.
 - It will be conducted in four categories, primary, secondary, college and general public levels.



- The exam will be in Hindi, English and 12 regional languages.
- There will be no fee for taking the exam.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/07/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-7-january-2021/>

49. Atanu Chakraborty task force sometimes mentioned in the news in reference to:

- (a) structural reforms in agriculture
- (b) ways to develop the secondary market for corporate loans
- (c) evaluate issues related to Infant Mortality Rate, Maternal Mortality Rate, Total Fertility Rate, Sex Ratio at Birth, Child Sex Ratio (CSR)
- (d) National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP)

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **About NIP:**
 - In the budget speech of 2019-2020, Finance Minister announced an outlay of Rs 100 lakh Crore for infrastructure projects over the next 5 years.
 - NIP is a first-of-its-kind initiative to provide world-class infrastructure across the country and improve the quality of life for all citizens.
 - It will improve project preparation, attract investments (both domestic & foreign) into infrastructure, and will be crucial for attaining the target of becoming a \$5 trillion economy by FY 2025.
 - Covers both economic and social infrastructure projects.
- **Important recommendations and observations made by Atanu Chakraborty taskforce:**
 - Investment needed: ₹111 lakh crore over the next five years (2020-2025) to build infrastructure projects and drive economic growth.
 - Energy, roads, railways and urban projects are estimated to account for the bulk of projects (around 70%).
 - The centre (39 percent) and state (40 percent) are expected to have an almost equal share in implementing the projects, while the private sector has 21 percent share.
 - Aggressive push towards asset sales.
 - Monetisation of infrastructure assets.
 - Setting up of development finance institutions.
 - Strengthening the municipal bond market.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/07/national-infrastructure-pipeline-nip-2/>

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

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Climate Neutral Now is an initiative launched by the UN Climate Change in 2015, aiming at encouraging and supporting**
- All levels of society to take climate action to achieve a climate neutral world by mid-century, as enshrined in the Paris Agreement adopted the same year.



- The initiative therefore invites companies, organizations, governments and citizens to work towards climate neutrality by reducing their climate footprint thanks to a simple 3.-steps method, whereby they shall:
- Measure their greenhouse gas emissions;
- Reduce them as much as possible; and
- Compensate those which cannot be avoided by using UN certified emission reductions (CERs).

Source: UPSC CSE 2018: Q58; set-D



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

51. Consider the following statements about Pravasi Bhartiya Divas

1. Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) is celebrated every year to strengthen the engagement of the overseas Indian community with the Government of India.
2. Selected overseas Indians are also honored with Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award.
3. The first chapter of Pravasi Bhartiya Divas was held in 2000.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The 16th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention, is being organized on 9th January 2021, despite the ongoing Covid pandemic.
- **About PBD:**
 - Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) is celebrated on **9th January** to mark the contribution of Overseas Indian community in the development of India.
 - PBD Convention is the flagship event of the **Ministry of External Affairs** and provides an important platform to engage and connect with the overseas Indians.
 - PBD conventions were **held every year since 2003**.
 - **S1: Since 2015**, its format has been revised to celebrate the PBD **once every two years**.
 - **The theme of 16th PBD Convention 2021:** “Contributing to Aatmanirbhar Bharat”.
 - S2: During the Convention, selected overseas Indians are also honored with the prestigious Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award to recognize their contributions to various fields both in India and abroad.
 - S3: The 15th annual Pravasi Bhartiya Divas (PBD) is held in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. The first chapter of Pravasi Bhartiya Divas was held in 2003 to recognise the contributions of NRIs in academic and professional fields across the world.
- **Why PBD is celebrated on January 9?**
 - January 9 was chosen as the day to celebrate this occasion since it was **on this day in 1915 that Mahatma Gandhi**, the greatest Pravasi, **returned to India from South Africa**, led India’s freedom struggle and changed the lives of Indians forever.
 - **Significance**
 - These conventions provide **a platform to the overseas Indian community to engage with the government and people of the land of their ancestors** for mutually beneficial activities.
 - These conventions are also **very useful in networking among the overseas Indian community** residing in various parts of the world and enable them to share their experiences in various fields.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/08/pravasi-bharatiya-divas/>

52. Which of the following statements:

1. Infant and child mortality has been declined in all the Indian states.



2. Among all the surveyed states and UTs, Bihar displayed the highest prevalence in Infant and child mortality.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct with reference to findings of National Family Health Survey-5?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **Findings of NFHS 5**

- The survey provides data of States and UTs on over 130 parameters. On various parameters, major number of states have worsened over the last round of survey (NFHS 4 – 2015-16).
- The children born between 2014 and 2019 are more malnourished than the previous generation.
- Infant and child mortality declined in most of the Indian states.
- Sikkim, Assam, Goa and Jammu & Kashmir witnessed a steep decline in Neonatal Mortality Rate (NMR), Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) and Under-Five Mortality Rate (U5MR).
- Meghalaya, Manipur and Andaman & Nicobar Island reported increase in all the three categories of child mortality – NMR, IMR and U5MR.
- Among all the surveyed states and UTs, Bihar displayed the highest prevalence in Infant and child mortality in all three categories, while the lowest death rate was reported in Kerala.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/08/panel-to-study-nfhs-5-findings/>

53. With reference to communication technologies, what is/are the difference / differences between LTE (Long-Term Evolution) and VoLTE (Voice over Long-Term Evolution)?

1. LTE is commonly marketed as 3G and VoLTE is commonly marketed as advanced 3G.
2. LTE is data-only technology and VoLTE is voice-only technology.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- VoLTE is voice calls over a 4G LTE network, rather than the 2G or 3G connections. VoLTE can transmit data too. VoLTE has up to three times more voice and data capacity than 3G UMTS and up to six times more than 2G GSM. So, both 1 and 2 are wrong.
- Context:
 - The **Department of Telecommunications** (DoT), recently said that auctions for **4G spectrum** will begin from March 1.
- The main objectives of the sale were:
 - To obtain a market-determined price for the spectrum on offer,
 - Ensure efficient use of spectrum and avoid hoarding,
 - Stimulate competition in the sector and maximise revenue proceeds.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/08/what-are-the-spectrum-auctions/>



54. Consider the following statements regarding 5G mobile network.

1. 5G technology is meant to deliver higher multi-Gbps peak data speeds, ultra high latency, more reliability and massive network capacity.
2. 5G wireless devices will connect to the Internet and telephone network by radio waves through a local antenna.
3. At present 5G technology is available only in US, China and some European countries.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- 5G is the 5th generation mobile network. It is a new global wireless standard after 1G, 2G, 3G, and 4G networks. 5G enables a new kind of network that is designed to connect virtually everyone and everything together including machines, objects, and devices.
- 5G wireless technology is meant to deliver higher multi-Gbps peak data speeds, **ultra-low latency**, more reliability, massive network capacity, increased availability, and a more uniform user experience to more users. Higher performance and improved efficiency empower new user experiences and connects new industries.
- Like its predecessors, 5G networks are cellular networks, in which the service area is divided into small geographical areas called cells. **All 5G wireless devices in a cell are connected to the Internet and telephone network by radio waves through a local antenna in the cell.**
- **First generation – 1G**
1980s: 1G delivered analog voice.
- **Second generation – 2G**
Early 1990s: 2G introduced digital voice (e.g. CDMA- Code Division Multiple Access).
- **Third generation – 3G**
Early 2000s: 3G brought mobile data (e.g. CDMA2000).
- **Fourth generation – 4G LTE**
2010s: 4G LTE ushered in the era of mobile broadband.
- 1G, 2G, 3G, and 4G all led to 5G, which is designed to provide more connectivity than was ever available before.
- 5G is already here today, and global operators started launching new 5G networks in early 2019. In 2020, many countries expect nationwide 5G mobile networks. Also, all major Android phone manufacturers are commercializing 5G phones. And soon, even more people may be able to access 5G.
- 5G has been deployed in 35+ countries and counting.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/08/what-are-the-spectrum-auctions/>

55. With reference to Bureau of Indian standards, consider the following statements

1. BIS is the national Standards Body of India working under the aegis of Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
2. BIS head will be appointed by Cabinet secretary.
3. BIS is a statutory body.

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



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

Ans: (a)

Explanation: **Here Directive word is NOT CORRECT!!**

- **Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)** is the national Standards Body of India working under the aegis of **Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution**
- It is established by the **Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986** which came into effect on 23 December 1986.
- The **Minister in charge of the Ministry** or Department having administrative control of the BIS is the **ex-officio President of the BIS**.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/08/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-8-january-2021/>

56. Recently launched the Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (NIIO) has which of the following mandates?

1. transfer technology to industry for producing the commercially
2. outsource assembly of submarines and ships
3. induction of emerging disruptive technology in an accelerated time frame

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (b)

- Stat1 and 2 not related to NIIO.
- The NIIO is a three-tiered organisation.
- Naval Technology Acceleration Council (N-TAC) will bring together the twin aspects of innovation and indigenisation and provide apex level directives.
 - A working group under the N-TAC will implement the projects.
 - A Technology Development Acceleration Cell (TDAC) has also been created for induction of emerging disruptive technology in an accelerated time frame.
- Functions of NIIO:
 - The NIIO puts in place dedicated structures for the end users to interact with academia and industry towards fostering innovation and indigenisation for self-reliance in defence in keeping with the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/08/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-8-january-2021/>

57. 'Escape clause' in the FRBM act allows Centre to exceed the annual fiscal deficit target under which of the following grounds?

1. National security
2. National calamity
3. Collapse of agriculture
4. Structural reforms

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- (a) 2 and 3



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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- FM Sitharaman invoked the Escape Clause to relax the fiscal deficit target for FY 21.
- The clause allows the govt to relax the fiscal deficit target for up to 50 basis points or 0.5 percent.
- **Under Section 4(2) of the Act**, the Centre can exceed the annual fiscal deficit target citing certain grounds.
 - The grounds include
 - National security, war
 - National calamity
 - Collapse of agriculture
 - Structural reforms
 - Decline in real output growth of a quarter by at least three percentage points below the average of the previous four quarters.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/07/11/do-we-need-a-fiscal-council/>

58. 'ASEEM portal' has been launched recently by:

- (a) NITI Aayog
 (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
 (c) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME)
 (d) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE)

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has launched 'Aatmanirbhar Skilled Employee Employer Mapping' (ASEEM) portal to help skilled people find sustainable livelihood opportunities.**
- The Artificial Intelligence-based ASEEM will provide employers a platform to assess the availability of skilled workforce and formulate their hiring plans.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/07/11/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-11-july-2020/>

59. Consider the following statements about Malaria:

1. Malaria is caused by Plasmodium parasites
2. It is a communicable disease
3. There is currently no commercially available malaria vaccine.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Stat3: [Source](#): Although progress has been made in the last 10 years toward developing malaria vaccines, there is currently no licensed malaria vaccine on the market.
 - The only approved vaccine as of 2015 is RTS,S, known by the trade name **Mosquirix**.
 - **It requires four injections, and has a relatively low efficacy.** Due to this low efficacy, the World Health Organization (**WHO**) **does not**



recommend the routine use of the RTS,S vaccine in babies between 6 and 12 weeks of age.

- Stat1 and 2: Malaria is a communicable disease caused by single-celled microorganisms of the Plasmodium group.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/07/22/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-22-july-2020/>

60. With the reference to educational institutions during rule in India, consider the following pairs:

<i>Institution</i>	<i>Founder</i>
1. Sanskrit College at Banaras	William Jones
2. Calcutta Madrasa	Warren Hastings
3. Fort William College	Arthur Wellesley

Which of the pairs given below is/are correct?

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

Ans : (b)

Explanation:

- **Warren Hastings**, himself an intellectual, **set up the Calcutta Madrasa in 1781** for the study and learning of Persian and Arabic.
- **In 1791** the efforts of **Jonathan Duncan**, the British Resident at Benares, bore fruit and a **Sanskrit College** was opened at **Benares**.
- **Lord Richard Colley Wellesley (NOT ARTHUR WELLESLEY)** took the first step for training of Civil Servants when he founded the **fort William College**, in Calcutta in November 1800 where the Civil Servants of the Company were to receive training in the literature, science and languages of India.

Refer: UPSC CSP-2018: Q59-Set D

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

61. The 'Navtej Singh Johar v. Union of India' case, recently in the news, is related to

- a) Triple talaq
b) Section 377 of Indian Penal Code
c) Uniform civil code
d) Criminal defamation of Indian Penal Code

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Navtej Singh Johar & Ors. v. Union of India thr. Secretary Ministry of Law and Justice is a landmark decision of the Supreme Court of India in 2018 that decriminalised all consensual sex among adults, including homosexual sex.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/09/last-chance-to-clear-stand-on-same-sex-marriages-for-center-delhi-hc/>

62. Right to religion can be constrained if in case of

1. Public health emergency
2. State can interfere if "lower castes" are not allowed in Hindu temples

Select the right code

- (a) 1 only



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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Right to religion is subject to public order, morality, health and other provisions relating to fundamental rights.
- State is permitted to provide for social welfare and reform or throw open Hindu religious institutions of a public character to all classes and sections of Hindus

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/09/sc-to-hear-plea-against-confessions-to-priests/>

63. Consider the following statements about H5N1 Virus.

1. H5N1 is a type of influenza virus that causes a highly infectious, severe respiratory disease in birds.
2. In human cases, the infection is easily transmitted from person to person.
3. The virus is not sensitive to heat.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Ans: (b)

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

- H5N1 is a type of influenza virus that causes a highly infectious, severe respiratory disease in birds called avian influenza (or “bird flu”). Human cases of H5N1 avian influenza occur occasionally, but it is difficult to transmit the infection from person to person. When people do become infected, the mortality rate is about 60%.
- Almost all cases of H5N1 infection in people have been associated with close contact with infected live or dead birds, or H5N1-contaminated environments. The virus does not infect humans easily, and spread from person to person appears to be unusual. There is no evidence that the disease can be spread to people through properly prepared and thoroughly cooked food.
- It is safe to eat properly prepared and cooked poultry and game birds. The virus is sensitive to heat.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/09/the-return-of-bird-flu/>

64. Consider the following statements regarding H9N2 Virus, recently seen in news.

1. H9N2 is a subtype of the influenza A virus, which causes human influenza as well as bird flu.
2. H9N2 viruses are found worldwide in wild birds and are endemic in poultry in many countries.
3. H9N2 virus infections in humans are rare, but likely under-reported due to typically mild symptoms of the infections.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)



Explanation:

- **H9N2 is a subtype of the influenza A virus, which causes human influenza as well as bird flu.**
- According to the US National Centre for Biotechnology Information (NCBI), H9N2 viruses are found worldwide in wild birds and are endemic in poultry in many areas.
- H9N2 viruses could potentially play a major role in the emergence of the next influenza pandemic. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), with avian influenza viruses circulating in poultry, there is a risk for sporadic infection and small clusters of human cases due to exposure to infected poultry or contaminated environments.
- **H9N2 virus infections in humans are rare, but likely under-reported due to typically mild symptoms of the infections.** Cases of human infection have been observed in Hong Kong, China, Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Egypt.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/09/the-return-of-bird-flu/>

65. Consider the following statements wrt Institutions of Eminence (IoE) scheme

1. Only higher education institutions allowed to become IoE
2. Under the scheme, greenfield Institutions would get 3 year period to establish and operationalize the institution

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 the IoEs scheme:**
- Launched in order to empower the Higher Educational Institutions and to help them become world-class teaching and research institutions.
- **Objectives:**
 - **Excellence and Innovation:** To provide for higher education leading to excellence and innovations in such branches of knowledge as may be deemed fit at post-graduate, graduate and research degree levels.
 - **Specialization:** To engage in areas of specialization to make distinctive contributions to the objectives of the university education system.
 - **Global Rating:** To aim to be rated internationally for its teaching and research as a top hundred Institution in the world over time.
 - **Quality teaching and Research:** To provide for high quality teaching and research and for the advancement of knowledge and its dissemination.
- **Incentives of the scheme:**
 - Institutes with IOE tag will be given greater autonomy and freedom to decide fees, course durations and governance structures.
 - The public institutions under IOE tag will receive a government grant of ₹1,000 crore, while the private institutions will not get any funding under the scheme.
- **Eligibility**
 - Public institutions are assessed on the basis of QS-2020 world rankings, in case of a tie QS- 2019 rankings are used.



- **Only higher education institutions currently placed in the top 500 of global rankings or top 50 of the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) are eligible to apply for the eminence tag.**
- Greenfield Proposals: Only after exhausting the above criterion, if any slot remains vacant, consideration shall be given to yet to be established (Greenfield) proposals.
- The term green field project generally refers to the initiation of a project without the need to consider any prior work.
- Greenfield Institutions would get 3 year period to establish and operationalise the institution, and thereafter, EEC will consider giving IoE status to such institutions.
- Satya Bharti Foundation (telecom major Airtel's philanthropic arm) became the second green field institution to be given IoE status, after Reliance's Jio Institute.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/09/institutions-of-eminence-ioes-to-set-up-campuses-abroad/>

66. In India, the Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of the Ecosystem Services (NCAVES) is being implemented by the:
- (a) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC).
 - (b) Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).
 - (c) Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MOCI).
 - (d) Both (a) and (b)

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **About NCAVES India Forum 2021**
- In India, the NCAVES project is being implemented by the MoSPI with collaboration of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) and the National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC).
- NCAVES India Forum 2021 is being organised in a virtual format.
- **Key Focus area:**
- The Forum aims to build a stronger awareness about the different perspective to Environment and to show a way forward towards realizing the contribution of the natural capital to achieve a “better environment, better tomorrow”.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/09/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-9-january-2021/>

67. National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) is a/an/the:
- (a) not for profit organization
 - (b) policy think tank of the Government of India
 - (c) regulatory body of the Government of India
 - (d) none of the above

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI)**
- The National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) announced that it will offer a free **IDN (Internationalized Domain Name)** in any of their preferred 22 official Indian language.
- It will be available **along with every IN domain booked by the registrant.**
- This offer has been created **to stimulate the adoption of भारत (IDN) domain name** and proliferation of local language content.



- **About NIXI**
- National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) **is a not for profit organization working since 2003** for spreading the internet technology to the citizens of India.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/09/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-9-january-2021/>

68. Consider the following statements regarding Guru Ravidas

1. Guru Ravidas taught removal of social divisions of caste and gender, and promoted unity in the pursuit of personal spiritual freedoms.
2. The Panch Vani text of the Dadupanthi tradition within Hinduism also includes numerous poems of Ravidas.

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:

- Shri Guru Ravidas Ji was an Indian mystic poet-sant of the Bhakti movement during the 15th to 16th century CE. Venerated as a guru (teacher) in the region of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and mainly Punjab. He was a poet-saint, social reformer and a spiritual figure.
- The Panch Vani text of the Dadupanthi tradition within Hinduism also includes numerous poems of Ravidas. Guru Ravidas taught removal of social divisions of caste and gender, and promoted unity in the pursuit of personal spiritual freedoms.

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

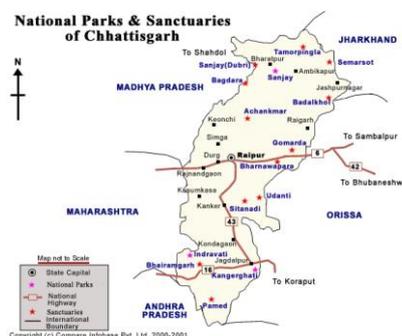
69. Achanakmar, Udanti- Sitanadi, Indravati tiger reserves are located in which of the following state?

- (a) Karnataka
- (b) Jharkhand
- (c) West Bengal
- (d) Chhattisgarh

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Tiger conservation involves attempts to prevent the animal from becoming extinct and preserving its natural habitat. India is home to 70 per cent of global tiger population. Therefore, the country has an important role to play in tiger conservation.
- **Guru Ghasidas National Park: This will be Chattisgarh's 4th tiger reserve. Current 3 tiger reserves: Achanakmar, Udanti- Sitanadi and Indravati tiger reserves.**



Refer: https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/chhattisgarh-to-get-fourth-tiger-reserve-119112500111_1.html



70. The Wasteland Atlas has been released by
- Ministry of Earth Sciences
 - Ministry of Rural Development
 - Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
 - Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Ministry of rural development releases fifth edition of Wasteland Atlas. The last edition was published in 2011.**
- This is significant as it takes into account 12.08 MHa of unmapped area of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) for the first time.
- The new wastelands mapping exercise was carried out by NRSC using the Indian Remote Sensing Satellite data.

Refer: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetailm.aspx?PRID=1590395>

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

71. Consider the following statements regarding Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI).
- OCI Scheme was introduced by The Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 1955.
 - OCI cardholders have no right to vote, no right to hold constitutional offices, and no right to buy agricultural properties.
 - Recently the Government held that OCI card holders enjoy fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution, including the right to freedom of speech and expression.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

- 1 and 2
- 2 and 3
- 3 only
- 1 and 3

Ans: (d)

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

- The Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) is an immigration status permitting a foreign citizen of Indian origin to live and work in the Republic of India indefinitely.
- It was introduced by The Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2005 in August 2005.
- The Constitution of India prevents Indian citizens from holding dual citizenship. As such the OCI is not actual citizenship of India according to Indian law as it has many limitations such as no right to vote, no right to hold constitutional offices, and no right to buy agricultural properties.
- Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) card holders do not enjoy fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution, including the right to freedom of speech and expression, the government told the Delhi High Court.
- The government's response came in a plea filed by former Ranbaxy executive Dinesh Thakur seeking the right to seek information under the RTI Act.
- "OCI card holders have merely been granted statutory rights under the Citizenship Act, 1955," the government said in an affidavit filed by the Ministry of External Affairs.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/11/what-are-h-1b-visas-and-new-wage-based-rules/>



72. It is a compulsory termination of Indian citizenship by the Central government, if

1. the citizen has shown disloyalty to the Constitution of India
2. the citizen has been ordinarily resident out of India for five years continuously

Which of the given above statement is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- the citizen has obtained the citizenship by fraud;
- the citizen has shown disloyalty to the Constitution of India (but not to the laws, because most law breakers are only imprisoned or punished);
- the citizen has unlawfully traded or communicated with the enemy during a war;
- The citizen has, within **five years** after **registration or naturalisation**, been imprisoned in any country for two years; and the citizen has been **ordinarily resident out of India** for **seven years**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/11/what-are-h-1b-visas-and-new-wage-based-rules/>

73. According to the People's Republic of China's (PRC) 'One-China' policy

- a) States conducting bilateral diplomacy with PRC must acknowledge the existence of only one state called "China".
- b) States wanting to pursue bilateral diplomacy with PRC must sever all formal ties with Taiwan – which officially calls itself the "Republic of China".
- c) Both Taiwan and China have recognised that there exists only one entity by name "China", but there is disagreement over which government truly represents this "China".
- d) Both statements (a) and (b).

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Statement 'c' refers to the '1992 consensus', which is considered a modified form of the 'One China' principle ([Wikipedia](#)).
- In 1949, after losing a protracted civil war to Mao Zedong's Communist party, Chiang Kai-shek's Kuomintang, or Nationalist party, retreated to the island of Taiwan, about 180km off the mainland's south-east coast. Ever since, the People's Republic of China has insisted that Taiwan is simply a province of China. *Any country wishing to establish diplomatic relations with Beijing must acknowledge a) there is only "One China" and b) sever all formal ties with Taiwan.*
- Officially, the "Republic of China" government in Taiwan still claims sovereignty over the mainland (and even Mongolia). But Beijing and Taipei have long adhered to the "1992 consensus" in which both sides agreed there was only China, while disagreeing on which republic was its rightful representative.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/11/china-taiwan-relations-3/>

74. Consider the following statements:

1. The GST Council is India's first experience at a cooperative-federalism based decision-making authority.
2. The 122nd constitution amendment bill and all legislations enabling the GST were passed unanimously by the Parliament.



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:

- “To develop a consensus, we passed the Constitution amendment enabling the GST unanimously. All legislations enabling the GST were passed unanimously. The rules were put before the GST Council. They have been approved unanimously. *We have held 27 meetings of the GST Council so far where every decision has been taken by consensus and unanimity.* All the rates are fixed through consensus on the recommendation of the Rates Committee. Whenever there are contrarian views in the Council, a representative Group of Ministers of the State is constituted to work out a way via media and we try to evolve consensus one way or the other. I do realise that the delicate federal balance in India has to be maintained. The GST Council is India’s first experience at cooperative-federalism based decision-making authority. We cannot afford to risk a failure and, therefore, it is functioning as to arouse confidence amongst all States. The meetings have always been consensus based. The only area where unanimity seems to be lacking is the television bites that some Ministers’ give after the meeting, which may be necessary for their own political position. I am willing to live with the experience of a healthy debate and unanimity within the Council and a show of dissent outside the Council meetings..”
- <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=180327>

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/11/hc-upholds-arrest-provision-in-cgst-act-for-tax-evasion/>

75. Consider the following statements with reference to State of Jharkhand, India:

1. It shares border with five states
2. Climate of Jharkhand varies from Humid subtropical in the north to tropical wet and dry in the south-east
3. Much of Jharkhand lies on the Chota Nagpur Plateau

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- S3: Jharkhand envelops a geographical area of 7,970,000 hectare. **Much of Jharkhand lies on the Chota Nagpur Plateau.** Many rivers pass through the Chota Nagpur plateau. They are: Damodar, North Koel, Barakar, South Koel, Sankh and Subarnarekha rivers. The higher watersheds of these rivers stretch out within the Jharkhand state. Much of the Jharkhand state is still enclosed by forest. Forests sustain the population of Elephants and tigers.
- S2: **Climate of Jharkhand varies from Humid subtropical in the north to tropical wet and dry in the south-east.** The main seasons are summer, rainy, autumn, winter and spring. The summer lasts from mid-April to mid-June.
- S1: Jharkhand is located in the eastern part of India and is enclosed by **Bihar** to the northern side, **Chhattisgarh** and **Uttar Pradesh** to the western side, **Odisha** to the southern part and **West Bengal** to the eastern part.



- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jharkhand#Geography>

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/11/why-jharkhand-has-exited-an-agreement-with-centre-rbi-on-power-dues/>

76. Consider the following statements:

1. Vanadium is a high value metal used in strengthening steel and titanium.
2. The largest deposits of Vanadium are in China, followed by India and South Korea.

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: Vanadium:

- Promising concentrations of vanadium found in the palaeo-proterozoic carbonaceous phyllite rocks in the Depo and Tamang areas of Papum Pare district in Arunachal Pradesh. This was the first report of a primary deposit of vanadium in India.
- Key Points:
 - Vanadium is a high value metal used in strengthening steel and titanium.
 - India consumed 4% of about 84,000 tonnes of vanadium produced across the globe in 2017. China, which produces 57% of the world's vanadium, consumed 44% of the metal.
 - The largest deposits are in China, followed by Russia and South Africa.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/11/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-11-january-2021/>

77. Consider the following statements regarding Pardoning powers of President.

1. The power of pardon shall be exercised by the President on the advice of Council of Ministers.
2. Both President and Governor can grant pardon in all cases including sentence of death.
3. The constitution provides the mechanism to question the legality of decisions of President or governors exercising mercy jurisdiction.

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 President has commuted death sentences to life imprisonment in at least 20 cases over the past nine years, based on the recommendations received from the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).
- **Clemency powers of the President under article 72:**
- It says that the President shall have the power to grant pardons, reprieves, respites or remissions of punishment or to suspend, remit or commute the sentence of any person convicted of any offence.



- **Pardon** –A pardon completely absolves the offender from all sentences and punishment and disqualifications and places him in the same position as if he had never committed the offence.
- **Commutation**– Commutation means exchange of one thing for another. In simple words to replace the punishment with less severe punishment. For example for Rigorous imprisonment-simple imprisonment.
- **Reprieve**– Reprieve means temporary suspension of death sentence. For example- pending a proceeding for pardon or commutation.
- **Respite** – Respite means awarding a lesser punishment on some special grounds. For example- the Pregnancy of women offender.
- **Remissions**– Remission means the reduction of the amount of sentence without changing its character, for example, a sentence of 1 year may be remitted to 6 months.
- **The President can exercise these powers:**
 - In all cases where the punishment or sentence is by a court martial;
 - In all cases where the punishment or sentence is for an offence against any law relating to a matter to which the executive power of the Union extends;
 - In all cases where the sentence is a sentence of death.
- **The pardoning power of President is wider than the governor and it differs in the following two ways:**
 - The power of the President to grant pardon extends in cases where the punishment or sentence is by a Court Martial but Article 161 does not provide any such power to the Governor.
- **The President can grant pardon in all cases where the sentence given is sentence of death but pardoning power of Governor does not extend to death sentence cases.**
- **Key facts:**
 - **This power of pardon shall be exercised by the President on the advice of Council of Ministers.**
 - Further, **the constitution does not provide for any mechanism to question the legality of decisions of President or governors exercising mercy jurisdiction.**
 - But the SC in Eperu Sudhakar case has given a small window for judicial review of the pardon powers of President and governors for the purpose of ruling out any arbitrariness.
 - The court has earlier held that court has retained the power of judicial review even on a matter which has been vested by the Constitution solely in the Executive.

Refer: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth

78. Consider the following statements regarding office of Deputy Chairman

1. Deputy Chairman is subordinate to the Chairman.
2. He resigns by writing to the President of India.

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: (d)

Explanation:



- The Deputy Chairman is elected by the Rajya Sabha itself from amongst its members. Whenever the office of the Deputy Chairman falls vacant, the Rajya Sabha elects another member to fill the vacancy.
- The Deputy Chairman vacates his office in any of the following three cases:
 - if he ceases to be a member of the Rajya Sabha;
 - **if he resigns by writing to the Chairman; and**
 - if he is removed by a resolution passed by a majority of all the then members of the Rajya Sabha. Such a resolution can be moved only after giving 14 days' advance notice.
- The Deputy Chairman performs the duties of the Chairman's office when it is vacant or when the Vice-President acts as President or discharges the functions of the President. He also acts as the Chairman when the latter is absent from the sitting of the House. In both the cases, he has all the powers of the Chairman.
- **It should be emphasized here that the Deputy Chairman is not subordinate to the Chairman. He is directly responsible to the Rajya Sabha.**

Refer: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth

79. Consider the following statements regarding Qualifications to be eligible for election as Vice-President

1. He should have completed 35 years of age.
2. He should be a member of the Rajya Sabha.
3. He should not hold any office of profit under the Union government or any state government.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Qualifications**
- To be eligible for election as Vice-President, a person should fulfil the following qualifications:
 - He should be a citizen of India.
 - He should have completed 35 years of age.
 - He should be qualified for election as a member of the Rajya Sabha.
 - He should not hold any office of profit under the Union government or any state government or any local authority or any other public authority.

Refer: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth

80. Who among the following are members of Inter-State Council?

1. Prime minister as the Chairman
2. Chief ministers of all the states
3. Six Central cabinet ministers, including the home minister.

Which of the statements given above 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 Sarkaria Commission on Centre-State Relations (1983–88) made a strong case for the establishment of a permanent Inter-State Council under Article 263 of the Constitution. It recommended that in order to differentiate the Inter-State Council from other bodies established under the same Article 263, it must be called as the Inter-Governmental Council. The Commission recommended that the Council should be charged with the duties laid down in clauses (b) and (c) of Article 263 (see above).
- In pursuance of the above recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission, **the Janata Dal Government headed by V. P. Singh established the Inter-State Council in 1990**. It consists of the following members:
 - Prime minister as the Chairman
 - Chief ministers of all the states
 - Chief ministers of union territories having legislative assemblies
 - Administrators of union territories not having legislative assemblies
 - Governors of States under President's rule
 - Six Central cabinet ministers, including the home minister, to be nominated by the Prime Minister.
 - Five Ministers of Cabinet rank / Minister of State (independent charge) nominated by the Chairman of the Council (i.e., Prime Minister) are permanent invitees to the Council.

Refer: Indian Polity by M. Laxmikanth

RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 12th-Jan-2021

81. Consider the following statements regarding the procedure for Impeachment of President of India.

1. The President in India can be removed on grounds of treason, bribery, high crimes or misdemeanour.
 2. The charges of impeachment can be initiated in either house of the Parliament.
 3. Till now the impeachment proceeding has been passed only once by the parliament.
- Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Ans: (b)

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

- The president may also be removed before the expiry of the term **through impeachment for violating the Constitution of India** by the Parliament of India. The **process may start in either of the two houses** of the parliament. The house initiates the process by levelling the charges against the president. The charges are contained in a notice that has to be signed by at least **one-quarter of the total members of that house**. The notice is sent up to the president and 14 days later, it is taken up for consideration.
- **A resolution to impeach the president has to be passed by a two-thirds majority of the total number of members of the originating house**. It is then sent to the other house. The other house investigates the charges that have been made. During this process, the president has the right to defend oneself through an authorised counsel. If the second house also approves the charges made by



special majority again, the president stands impeached and is deemed to have vacated their office from the date when such a resolution stands passed. **No president has faced impeachment proceedings so the above provisions have never been used.**

- **The US Constitution states that the President can be removed on grounds of treason, bribery, high crimes or misdemeanour.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/12/how-a-us-president-can-be-impeached-4/>

82. Consider the following statements:

1. The- motion to impeach a Judge of the Supreme Court of India cannot be rejected by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha as per the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968.
2. The Constitution of India defines and gives details of what Constitutes ‘incapacity and proved misbehaviour’ of the Judges of the Supreme Court of India.
3. The details of the process of impeachment of the Judges of the Supreme Court of India are given in the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968.
4. If the motion for the impeachment of a Judge is taken up for voting, the law requires the motion to be backed by each House of the Parliament and supported by a majority of total membership of that House and by not less than two-thirds of total members of that House present and voting.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The speaker has the discretion to accept or reject the motion, so S1 is wrong.
- S2: It has not been defined.
- S3 and S4 are well known and can be verified here https://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/impeachment-explainer-and-options-before-opn-if-chairman-rejects-motion-118042000800_1.html

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/12/how-a-us-president-can-be-impeached-4/>

83. Consider the following statements about Animal Welfare Board of India::

1. It established in 1962 under Section 4 of The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960.
2. It was started under the stewardship of Mrinalini Sarabhai.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **About Animal Welfare Board of India:**
 - Established in 1962 under **Section 4 of The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act,1960.**
 - The Animal Welfare Board of India is a **statutory advisory body** advising the Government of India on animal welfare laws, and promotes animal



welfare in the country of India. Animal Welfare Board of India was started under the **stewardship of Late Smt. Rukmini Devi Arundale**, well known humanitarian.

- The Board was initially within the jurisdiction of the Government of India's Ministry of Food and Agriculture. In 1990, the subject of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was transferred to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, where it now resides.
- The Board consists of 28 Members, who serve for a period of 3 years.
- It works to ensure that animal welfare laws in the country are followed and provides grants to Animal Welfare Organisations. The Board oversees Animal Welfare Organisations (AWOs) by granting recognition to them if they meet its guidelines.
- **Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Care and Maintenance of Case Property Animals) Rules, 2017:**
 - Framed under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960.
 - The Rules allow a Magistrate to forfeit the cattle of an owner facing trial under the Act.
 - The animals are then sent to infirmaries, animal shelters, etc.
 - The authorities can further give such animals for "adoption".

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/12/prevention-of-cruelty-to-animals-act-1960/>

84. Consider the following statements about Pangong Tso:

1. It was created by an asteroid collision with earth impact during the Pleistocene Epoch.
2. It is a salt water lake.
3. It is a part of the Indus river basin area.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Stat 1 and 2: It is **formed from Tethys geosyncline**. It is a **salt water lake**.
- Stat 3 : It is **not a part of the Indus river basin area** and geographically a separate landlocked river basin
- **About Pangong Tso:**
 - Pangong Tso literally translates into a "conclave lake".
 - Situated at over 14,000 feet, the Lake is about 135 km long.
 - It is formed from Tethys geosyncline.
 - The Karakoram Mountain range ends at the north bank of Pangong Tso. Its southern bank too has high broken mountains sloping towards Spangur Lake in the south.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/12/china-draws-back-troops-from-lac/>

85. Consider the following statements regarding UN Security Council.

1. It is the only UN body with the authority to issue binding resolutions to member states.
2. The presidency of the Council is held by each of the members in turn for one month, following the English alphabetical order of the Member States names.



3. It was established in 1945 and headquartered in Geneva.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **UN Security Council**

- All members of the United Nations agree to accept and carry out the decisions of the Security Council. While other organs of the United Nations make recommendations to member states, only the Security Council has the power to make decisions that member states are then obligated to implement under the Charter.
- The presidency of the Council is held by each of the members in turn for one month, following the English alphabetical order of the Member States names.
- It was established in 1945 and headquartered in New York.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/12/india-at-un-high-table/>

86. Consider the following statements about Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi:

1. It is implemented as a central sector scheme by the Government of India.
2. This scheme was introduced to augment the source of income of many small and marginal farmers.
3. The entire responsibility of identification of beneficiaries rests with the State / UT Governments.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **About Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi:**

- It is implemented as a **central sector scheme** by the Government of India.
- This scheme was introduced to **augment the source of income of many small and marginal farmers.**
- Under the Scheme an amount of **Rs.6000/- per year** is transferred directly into the bank accounts of the farmers, subject to certain exclusion criteria relating to higher income status.
- The entire responsibility of **identification of beneficiaries** rests with the **State / UT Governments.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/12/pm-kisan-3/>

87. Consider the following statements about Gaganyaan

1. ISRO and NASA have agreed to work together for India's first manned space mission Gaganyaan.
2. India is planning to send three humans (Gaganyatris) into space i.e. in low earth orbit (LEO) by 2022.
3. This mission will make India fourth nation in the world after USA, Russia and China to launch human spaceflight mission.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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



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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Russia's federal space agency Roscosmos State Corporation for Space Activities (ROSCOSMOS) have agreed to work together for first manned space mission Gaganyaan.** It is India's first manned space mission. This mission will make India fourth nation in the world after USA, Russia and China to launch human spaceflight mission.
- India is planning to send three humans (Gaganyatris) into space i.e. in low earth orbit (LEO) by 2022 i.e. by 75th Independence Day.
- **Objectives of the Mission:**
 - Enhancement of science and technology levels in the country
 - A national project involving several institutes, academia and industry
 - Improvement of industrial growth
 - Inspiring youth
 - Development of technology for social benefits
 - Improving international collaboration

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/12/two-flight-surgeons-for-gaganyaan-to-train-in-russia/>

88. With reference to Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, consider the following statements:

1. Under UAPA, both Indian and foreign nationals can be charged.
2. The Act empowers the Director General of Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to grant approval of seizure or attachment of property when the case is investigated by the said agency.

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 Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act:**
 - Passed in 1967, the law aims at **effective prevention of unlawful activities associations in India.**
 - The Act assigns **absolute power to the central government**, by way of which if the Centre deems an activity as unlawful then it may, by way of an Official Gazette, declare it so.
 - It has death penalty and life imprisonment as highest punishments.
- **Key points:**
 - Under UAPA, **both Indian and foreign nationals can be charged.**
 - It will be **applicable to the offenders in the same manner, even if crime is committed on a foreign land, outside India.**
 - Under the UAPA, **the investigating agency can file a charge sheet in maximum 180 days after the arrests and the duration can be extended further after intimating the court.**
- **As per amendments of 2019:**
 - The Act empowers **the Director General of National Investigation Agency (NIA)** to grant approval of seizure or attachment of property when the case is investigated by the said agency.



- The Act empowers the officers of the NIA, of the rank of Inspector or above, to investigate cases of terrorism in addition to those conducted by the DSP or ACP or above rank officer in the state.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/12/uapa/>

89. The Dzukou Valley is situated in

- a) Kashmir Himalayas
- b) Darjiling and Sikkim Himalayas
- c) Arunachal Himalayas
- d) None of the above

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **About Dzukou Valley:**

- Located at the borders of the states of **Nagaland and Manipur**.
- Famous for the Dzūko Lily and it is found only in this valley.
- The Asian Highway 1 and also the NH-2 passes through its foothills.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/12/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-12-january-2021/>

90. Consider the following pairs:

Pass	State
1. Banihal Pass	Himachal Pradesh
2. Niti Pass	Uttarakhand
3. Jelepla Pass	Jammu and Kashmir
4. Bom Di La	Arunachal Pradesh
5. Bara Lacha La	Sikkim

Which of the above are incorrectly matched:

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Banihal Pass – Jammu and Kashmir
- Jelepla Pass – Sikkim
- Bara Lacha La – Himachal Pradesh

Refer: India Physical Environment Geography Class XI NCERT

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

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

1. White marble was used in Mughal Buland Darwaza and Khankah at Fatehpur Sikri.
2. Red sandstone and marble were used in making Bara Imambara and Rumi Darwaza at Lucknow.

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: (d)



Explanation:

- **S1:** The Buland Darwaza is made of red and buff sandstone, decorated by white and black marble and is higher than the courtyard of the mosque. The Buland Darwaza is symmetrical and is topped by large free standing kiosks, which are the chhatris.
- **S2:** The architectural style of the Rumi Darwaza is completely in sync with the Nawabi architecture of Lucknow, and its significantly different from the Mughals. The material used for the drawaza is bricks and its then coated with lime, while the Mughals often used red sand stone. This is why the detailing on the Darwaza is more intricate, which would be impossible to achieve in stone.
- **Source:** https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bara_Imambara

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/14/mughal-history-whitewashed-in-texts-say-two-educationists/>

92. With reference to Mughal India, what is/are the difference/differences between Jagirdar and Zamindar?

1. Jagirdars were holders of land assignments in lieu of judicial and police duties, whereas Zamindars were holders of revenue rights without obligation to perform any duty other than revenue collection.
2. Land assignments to Jagirdars were hereditary and revenue rights of Zamindars were not hereditary.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Both are incorrect.
- The Jagirdars were the king's officials who enjoyed the land gifted from the King. They were the rank (mansab) holder given by the king called mansabdar. They were allotted non-inheritable land area equivalent to their fee amount called Jagir. These Jagirs are temporary in character and the Jagirdars only have the right to claim and enjoy the revenue collected from the land.
- The holder of land was termed as the Zamindar. They had the hereditary right over the land to claim share in the peasant's output other than land revenues. They also have the right to detain the peasants.
- See https://www.academia.edu/33049266/Jagirdari_System
- <https://www.owlgen.com/question/what-is-the-difference-between-jagirdar-and-zamindar>

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/14/mughal-history-whitewashed-in-texts-say-two-educationists/>

93. Who among the following Mughal Emperors shifted emphasis from illustrated manuscripts to album and individual portrait?

- (a) Humayun
- (b) Akbar
- (c) Jahangir
- (d) Shah Jahan

Ans: (c)

Explanation:



- Jahangir was also deeply influenced by European painting. During his reign he came into direct contact with the English Crown and was sent gifts of oil paintings, which included portraits of the King and Queen. He encouraged his royal atelier to take up the single point perspective favoured by European artists, unlike the flattened multi-layered style used in traditional miniatures. He particularly encouraged paintings depicting events of his own life, individual portraits, and studies of birds, flowers and animals.
- See [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mughal_painting#Jahangir_\(1605%E2%80%931627\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mughal_painting#Jahangir_(1605%E2%80%931627))

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/14/mughal-history-whitewashed-in-texts-say-two-educationists/>

94. Consider the following statements regarding 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.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/14/polar-vortex-threatens-to-send-us-europe-into-deep-freeze/>

95. In September 2018, the Supreme Court unanimously struck down Section 497 of the Indian Penal Code that makes adultery a punishable offence for men. The said section was found to be against the spirit of with which of the following articles of the Indian Constitution?

1. Article 21 (Right to life and personal liberty).
2. Article 14 (Right to equality).
3. Article 19 (Right to freedom of speech and expression).

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (a)



Explanation: **September 2018 Supreme Court verdict:**

- In September 2018, the Supreme Court unanimously struck down **Section 497** of the Indian Penal Code that makes adultery a punishable offence for men.
- The five-judge bench of the Supreme Court said:
- The 158-year-old law was unconstitutional and fell foul of Article 21 (Right to life and personal liberty) and Article 14 (Right to equality).
- Section 198(1) and 198(2) of the CrPC, which allows a husband to bring charges against the man with whom his wife committed adultery, are unconstitutional.
- While adultery could be a ground for civil issues, including dissolution of marriage, it could not be a criminal offence.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/14/keep-adultery-a-crime-in-the-armed-forces-sc-agrees-to-examine-centres-plea/>

96. Consider the following statements:

1. The concept of Curative Petition borrowed from Britain.
2. The concept of the curative petition is supported by Article 145 of the Indian Constitution.

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:

- Stat1: The concept was first evolved by the Supreme Court of India in **Rupa Ashok Hurra vs. Ashok Hurra and another case (2002)** on the question whether an aggrieved person is entitled to any relief against the final judgement/order of the Supreme Court, even after the dismissal of a review petition.
- Stat2: The concept of the curative petition is supported by **Article 137 of the Indian Constitution**. It provides that in the matter of laws and rules made under Article 145, the Supreme Court has the power to review any judgement pronounced (or order made) by it.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/14/keep-adultery-a-crime-in-the-armed-forces-sc-agrees-to-examine-centres-plea/>

97. With reference to Paracel Islands, consider the following statements:

1. It is a group of islands located in the South China Sea
2. They are jointly occupied China, Vietnam and Taiwan
3. Most of the islands are coral islands and reefs

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:

- The Paracel Islands, also known as Xisha in Chinese and Hoàng Sa in Vietnamese, is a group of islands, reefs, banks and other maritime features in the South China Sea. **It is controlled (and occupied) by the People's Republic of China, and also claimed by Taiwan (Republic of China) and Vietnam.** The



archipelago includes about 130 small coral islands and reefs, most grouped into the northeast Amphitrite Group or the western Crescent Group.

- They are distributed over a maritime area of around 15,000 square kilometres (5,800 sq mi), with a land area of approximately 7.75 square kilometres (2.99 sq mi). The archipelago is approximately equidistant from the coastlines of China (PRC) and Vietnam; and approximately about one-third of the way from central Vietnam to the northern Philippines.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/14/a-strong-india-would-act-as-counterbalance-to-china-u-s/>

98. Consider the following statements:

The Reserve Bank of India's recent directives relating to unauthorized Digital Lending Platforms/Mobile Apps, provides that

1. Public should never use unauthorized digital lending platforms and mobile apps.
2. Public should verify antecedents of the company/ firm offering loans online or through mobile apps.

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:

- **RBI has released an advisory on digital lending apps.**
- Background:
- The advisory comes in the backdrop of at least three borrowers in Telangana committing suicide in the recent past, following alleged harassment by personnel of such lenders, and many more complaining of being subjected to coercive methods after defaulting on repayments.
- Highlights:
 - **Public should be wary of unauthorised digital lending platforms and mobile apps.**
 - Public should verify antecedents of the company/ firm offering loans online or through mobile apps.
 - Consumers should never share copies of KYC documents with unidentified persons or unverified/unauthorised apps.





- They can report such apps/bank account information associated with the apps to law enforcement agencies concerned or use sachet portal (<https://sachet.rbi.org.in>) to file complaint.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/14/rbi-forms-working-group-on-digital-lending/>

99. With reference to Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, consider the following statements:

1. The scheme is compulsory for loanee farmers availing Crop Loan /KCC account for notified crops and voluntary for other others.
2. The scheme is being administered by concerned State Government.

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:

- PMFBY aims to provide a comprehensive insurance cover against failure of the crop thus helping in stabilising the income of the farmers.
- **The scheme is compulsory for loanee farmers availing Crop Loan /KCC account for notified crops and voluntary for other others. The scheme is being administered by Ministry of Agriculture.**
- **PMFBY to PMFBY 2.0:**
 - Completely Voluntary: It has been decided to make enrolment 100% voluntary for all farmers from 2020 Kharif.
 - Limit to Central Subsidy: The Cabinet has decided to cap the Centre's premium subsidy under these schemes for premium rates up to 30% for unirrigated areas/crops and 25% for irrigated areas/crops.
 - More Flexibility to States: The government has given the flexibility to states/UTs to implement PMFBY and given them the option to select any number of additional risk covers/features like prevented sowing, localised calamity, mid-season adversity, and post-harvest losses.
 - Penalising the Pendency: In the revamped PMFBY, a provision has been incorporated wherein if states don't release their share before March 31 for the Kharif season and September 30 for rabi, they would not be allowed to participate in the scheme in subsequent seasons.
 - Investing in ICE Activities: Insurance companies have to now spend 0.5% of the total premium collected on information, education and communication (IEC) activities.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/14/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-14-january-2021/>

100. Which of the following are the objective of the Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC)?

1. Providing employment in rural areas.
2. Providing salable articles.
3. Creating self-reliance amongst people and building up a strong rural community spirit
4. Establishing a major khadi industry in every village

Select the correct answer code:



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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is a statutory body established by an Act of Parliament (Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act of 1956). In April 1957, it took over the work of former All India Khadi and Village Industries Board.
- Functions: It is an apex organization under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, with regard to khadi and village industries within India, which seeks to – “plan, promote, facilitate, organise and assist in the establishment and development of khadi and village industries in the rural areas in coordination with other agencies engaged in rural development wherever necessary.”
- **The Commission has three main objectives** which guide its functioning. These are:
 - The Social Objective – Providing employment in rural areas.
 - The Economic Objective – Providing salable articles.
 - The Wider Objective – Creating self-reliance amongst people and building up a strong rural community spirit.
 - **Establishing a major khadi industry in every village is not a listed objective and may not be economically feasible as well.**

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/14/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-14-january-2021/>



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

101. With reference to Welfare policies in India, consider the following statements

1. Skills Build platform launched by Directorate General of Supplies under the aegis of Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE)
2. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) is a flagship scheme of Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE)

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: Skills build Platform Launched by **Directorate General of Training (not Directorate General of supplies)**, under the aegis of Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE).
- S2: Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) is a flagship scheme of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE). It was launched with an objective of enabling a large number of youth in India to take up skill training that is relevant to specific industry, which would help them in securing a better livelihood.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/15/pmkvy-3-0/>

102. Which of the following statements is/are incorrect regarding Judicial Review?

1. Indian Constitution confers the power of judicial review to Supreme Court only.
2. The purpose of the judicial review is to review constitutional amendments only.
3. Judicial review is not a part of the basic structure of the constitution.

Select the correct answer code:

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

Ans: (c)

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

- In India the Constitution confers the **power of judicial review on the judiciary (both the Supreme Court as well as High Courts)**. Further, the Supreme Court has declared the power of judicial review as a basic feature of the Constitution or an element of the **basic structure of the Constitution**. Hence, the power of judicial review cannot be curtailed or excluded even by a constitutional amendment.
- Judicial review can be classified into the following three categories:
 - Judicial review of constitutional amendments.
 - Judicial review of legislation of the Parliament and State Legislatures and subordinate legislations.
 - Judicial review of administrative action of the Union and State and authorities under the state.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/15/why-supreme-courts-ruling-on-farm-laws-sets-a-terrible-constitutional-precedent/>



103. 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?
- The decisions taken by the Election Commission of India while discharging its duties cannot be challenged in any court of law.
 - The Supreme Court of India is not constrained in the exercise of its powers by laws made by the Parliament.
 - In the event of grave financial crisis in the country, the President of India can declare Financial Emergency without the counsel from the Cabinet.
 - State Legislatures cannot make laws on certain matters without the concurrence of Union Legislature.

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- As per Article 142, *“The Supreme Court in the exercise of its jurisdiction may pass such decree or make such order as is necessary for doing complete justice in any cause or matter pending before it, and any decree so passed or orders so made shall be enforceable throughout the territory of India in such manner as may be prescribed by or under any law made by Parliament and, until provision in that behalf is so made, in such manner as the President may by order prescribe”.*

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/15/why-supreme-courts-ruling-on-farm-laws-sets-a-terrible-constitutional-precedent/>

104. In the context of India which one of the following is the characteristic appropriate for Bureaucracy?
- An agency for widening the scope for parliamentary democracy
 - An agency for strengthening the structure of federalism
 - An agency for facilitating the political stability and economic growth
 - An agency for the implementation of public policy

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- “Bureaucracy means the civil servants, the administrative functionaries who are professionally trained for the public service and who enjoy permanency of tenure, promotion within service-partly by seniority and partly by merit.” - Garner
- “In its broad larger sense the term Civil Service is used to describe any personnel system where the employees are classified in a system of administration composed of a hierarchy, sections, divisions, bureaus, departments and the like.” -Willoughby
- NCERT- BUREAUCRACY: *“It is always possible that a party is defeated in elections and the new government wants to opt for new policies in the place of policies of the previous government. In such a situation, it is the responsibility of the administrative machinery to faithfully and efficiently participate in drafting the policy and in its **implementation.**”*

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/15/what-are-the-new-jharkhand-combined-civil-services-examination-rules-2021/>

105. Consider the following statements about Joint State Public Service Commissions
- They are Constitutional bodies
 - Their members are appointed by President
- Which of the statements above is/are correct?
- 1 only



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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- S1: Constitution makes a provision for the establishment of a Joint State Public Service Commission (JSPSC) for two or more states. While the UPSC and the SPSC are created directly by the Constitution, a **JSPSC can be created by an act of Parliament on the request of the state legislatures concerned.**
- S2: The chairman and members of a JSPSC are appointed by the president. They hold office for a term of six years or until they attain the age of 62 years, whichever is earlier.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/15/what-are-the-new-jharkhand-combined-civil-services-examination-rules-2021/>

106. Consider the following statements about the composition of State Public Service Commission

1. The number of members in the Commission is not prescribed in the Constitution, but left to the Parliament to make a law.
2. The members should have held office under either state or central government.

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: (d)

Explanation:

- S1: A State Public Service Commission consists of a chairman and other members appointed by the governor of the state. **The Constitution does not specify the strength of the Commission but has left the matter to the discretion of the Governor.**
- S2: Further, no qualifications are prescribed for the commission's membership except that one-half of the members of the commission should be such persons who have held office for at least ten years either under the government of India or under the Government of a state.
- The Constitution also authorises the governor to determine the conditions of service of the chairman and members of the Commission.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/15/what-are-the-new-jharkhand-combined-civil-services-examination-rules-2021/>

107. Consider the following statements about National Innovation Foundation (NIF) – India:

1. It is an autonomous body of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India.
2. It is India's national initiative to strengthen the grassroots technological innovations and outstanding traditional knowledge.

Which of the given 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!!**

About National Innovation Foundation (NIF) – India:

- It is an autonomous body of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India.
- Set up in February 2000 at Ahmedabad, Gujarat to provide institutional support for scouting, spawning, sustaining and scaling up the grassroots innovations across the country.
- It is India's national initiative to strengthen the grassroots technological innovations and outstanding traditional knowledge.
- Its mission is to help India become a creative and knowledge-based society by expanding policy and institutional space for grassroots technological innovators.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/15/national-innovation-foundation-nif-india/>

108. Consider the following statements regarding Forest Fires.

1. The youngest mountain ranges of Himalayas are susceptible to forest fires.
2. The forests of Eastern Himalayas are more frequently vulnerable to forest fires as compared to those in Western Himalayas.
3. Fire lines are strips without greenery or dried twigs to prevent forest fires from spreading.

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: (c)

Explanation:

- The most common hazard in forests is forests fire. Forests fires are as old as the forests themselves. They pose a threat not only to the forest wealth but also to the entire regime to fauna and flora seriously disturbing the bio-diversity and the ecology and environment of a region. During summer, when there is no rain for months, the forests become littered with dry senescent leaves and twinges, which could burst into flames ignited by the slightest spark. The Himalayan forests, particularly, Garhwal Himalayas have been burning regularly during the last few summers, with colossal loss of vegetation cover of that region.
- **S1: The youngest mountain ranges of Himalayas are the most vulnerable stretches of the world susceptible to forest fires.**
- **S2: The forests of Western are more frequently vulnerable to forest fires as compared to those in Eastern Himalayas.** This is because forests of Eastern Himalayas grow in high rain density. With large scale expansion of chirr (Pine) forests in many areas of the Himalayas the frequency and intensity of forest fires has increased.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/15/why-forest-fires-are-common-in-himachal-pradesh/>



109. “3D, printing” has applications in which the following?

1. Preparation of confectionery items
2. Manufacture of bionic ears
3. Automotive industry
4. Reconstructive surgeries
5. Data processing technologies

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **S1:** 3D printing is being used across a range of industries, from construction to medical technology. Its use in the food industry continues to grow. 3D printing of confectionery has focused primarily on chocolate and hard sugar candy, but recent innovations have led to printing of gummy candy.
<http://www.mintel.com/blog/food-market-news/whats-next-in-3d-sugar-confectionery-printing>
- **S2:** Bionic ears have been developed by some agencies, recently in news.
- **S3:** It is quite logical as constructing solid parts was one of the first uses of 3D printing.
- **S4:** People can now receive custom 3D-printed facial implants to help after illness or injuries. Read here <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28639959> and here https://www.odtmag.com/contents/view_videos/2017-07-28/3d-printing-is-revolutionizing-facial-reconstructive-surgery/48616
- **S5:** Multimaterial voxel-printing method that enables the physical visualization of data sets commonly associated with scientific imaging.
- It enables additive manufacturing of discontinuous data types such as point cloud data, curve and graph data, image-based data, and volumetric data.
- By converting data sets into dithered material deposition descriptions, through modifications to rasterization processes, we demonstrate that data sets frequently visualized on screen can be converted into physical, materially heterogeneous objects.
- It alleviates the need to postprocess data sets to boundary representations, preventing alteration of data and loss of information in the produced physicalizations.
- Therefore, it bridges the gap between digital information representation and physical material composition.
- You can read it here <http://advances.sciencemag.org/content/4/5/eaas8652.full>
- **India’s first indigenously Developed 9mm Machine Pistol**
 - India’s first indigenous 9mm Machine Pistol has been jointly developed by DRDO and Indian Army. The machine pistol fires the in-service 9mm ammunition and sports an upper receiver made from aircraft grade aluminium and lower receiver from carbon fibre.
 - **3D Printing process has been used in designing and prototyping of various parts including trigger components made by metal 3D printing.**
 - The weapon is named “Asmi” meaning “Pride”, “Self-Respect” & “Hard Work”.



- The weapon has huge potential in Armed forces as personal weapon for heavy weapon detachments, commanders and counter terrorism operations etc.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/15/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-15-january-2021/>

110. Consider the following statements

1. In India, State Governments do not have the power to auction non-coal mines.
2. Andhra Pradesh and Jharkhand do not have gold mines.
3. Rajasthan has iron ore mines.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- As per the new mining law — Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2015 — which came into effect from January 2015, the non-coal mines have to be auctioned by the respective state governments.
- Jharkhand has both alluvial and native gold. Alluvial gold is obtained from the sands of the Subarnarekha river, Sona Nadi in Singhbhum district and the streams draining the Sonapat valley. Native gold is found near Lowa in Singhbhum district.
- In Andhra Pradesh gold deposits are found in Ramagiri in Anantapur district.
- In Rajasthan the Iron-Ore deposits are located in the districts of Jaipur, Udaipur, Jhunjhunu, Sikar, Bhilwara, Alwar, Bharatpur, Dausa and Banswara.

Refer: UPSC CSE 2018

RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 18th-Jan-2021

111. Article 142 of the Indian Constitution, sometimes 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/2021/01/18/jallikattu-in-tamil-nadu-pride-politics/>

112. The Open Skies Treaty (OST) was in news recently, is related to which of the following?

- (a) Reduction and limitation of strategic offensive arms



- (b) Limit the export of nuclear equipment
- (c) Freedoms of the Air
- (d) Program of unarmed aerial surveillance flights over the entire territory of its participants

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **What is the Open Skies Treaty?**
 - It is an accord between over 30 countries that **allows participants to fly unarmed reconnaissance flights over any part of their fellow member states.**
 - First **proposed in 1955** by former US President Dwight Eisenhower as a means to deescalate tensions during the Cold War, the landmark treaty was eventually signed in 1992 between NATO members and former **Warsaw Pact countries** following the demise of the Soviet Union.
 - It went into **effect in 2002** and had signatories, including key players US and Russia, along with one non-ratifying member (Kyrgyzstan).
- **Aims of the OST:**
 - Build confidence among members through mutual openness, thus reducing the chances of accidental war.
- **Features of the treaty:**
 - Under the treaty, a member state can “spy” on any part of the host nation, with the latter’s consent.
 - A country can undertake aerial imaging over the host state after giving notice 72 hours before, and sharing its exact flight path 24 hours before.
 - The information gathered, such as on troop movements, military exercises and missile deployments, has to be shared with all member states.
 - Only approved imaging equipment is permitted on the surveillance flights, and officials from the host state can also stay on board throughout the planned journey.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/18/what-russias-exit-means-for-the-open-skies-treaty/>

113. Who are Uighurs?

- (a) an Iranic ethnic group native to a mountainous region of Western Asia.
- (b) an ethnic group, largely comprising Muslims, who predominantly live in the Western Myanmar province of Rakhine.
- (c) a Muslim minority community concentrated in China’s northwestern Xinjiang province.
- (d) None of the above

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Who are Uighurs?**
 - A Muslim minority community concentrated in China’s northwestern Xinjiang province.
 - They claim closer ethnic ties to Turkey and other central Asian countries than to China.
- **Why is China targeting the Uighurs?**
 - **Xinjiang is technically an autonomous region within China** — its largest region, rich in minerals, and sharing borders with eight countries, including India, Pakistan, Russia and Afghanistan.



- Over the past few decades, as economic prosperity has come to Xinjiang, it has brought with it in large numbers the majority Han Chinese, who have cornered the better jobs, and left the Uighurs feeling their livelihoods and identity were under threat.
- This led to sporadic violence, in 2009 culminating in a riot that killed 200 people, mostly Han Chinese, in the region's capital Urumqi. And many other violent incidents have taken place since then.
- Beijing also says Uighur groups want to establish an independent state and, because of the Uighurs' cultural ties to their neighbours, leaders fear that elements in places like Pakistan may back a separatist movement in Xinjiang.
- Therefore, the Chinese policy seems to have been one of treating the entire community as suspect, and launching a systematic project to chip away at every marker of a distinct Uighur identity.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/18/u-k-urges-china-to-grant-un-access-to-xinjiang/>

114. Consider the following statements regarding Group of Seven (G7) countries.

1. The Group of Seven (G7) is an international intergovernmental economic organization consisting of the seven largest IMF-described advanced economies in the world.
2. India was invited as a non-member country for the 2021 G7 summit.
3. Canada, France, Japan and China are the members of G7 countries.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **The United Kingdom has invited India, Australia and South Korea to attend the G7 summit that is scheduled to be held in June as "guest countries".**
- **What is G7?**
 - The G7, **originally G8**, was set up in 1975 as an informal forum bringing together the leaders of the world's leading industrial nations.
 - The summit gathers **leaders from the European Union (EU) and the following countries:** Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States.
 - **The major purpose** of the G-7 is to discuss and deliberate on international economic issues. It sometimes acts in concert to help resolve other global problems, with a special focus on economic issues.
- **How did G7 become G8?**
 - Russia was formally inducted as a member in the group in 1998, which led G7 to become G8.
 - However, Russian President Vladimir Putin's condemnable act of moving Russian troops into eastern Ukraine and conquering Crimea in 2014 drew heavy criticism from the other G8 nations.





- The other nations of the group decided to suspend Russia from the G8 as a consequence of its actions and the group became G7 again in 2014.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/18/g7-summit/>

115. Consider the following statements regarding 5G mobile network.

1. 5G technology is meant to deliver higher multi-Gbps peak data speeds, ultra-high latency, more reliability and massive network capacity.
2. 5G wireless devices will connect to the Internet and telephone network by radio waves through a local antenna.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- 5G is the 5th generation mobile network. It is a new global wireless standard after 1G, 2G, 3G, and 4G networks. 5G enables a new kind of network that is designed to connect virtually everyone and everything together including machines, objects, and devices.
- **S1:** 5G wireless technology is meant to deliver higher multi-Gbps peak data speeds, **ultra-low latency**, more reliability, massive network capacity, increased availability, and a more uniform user experience to more users. Higher performance and improved efficiency empower new user experiences and connects new industries.
- Like its predecessors, 5G networks are cellular networks, in which the service area is divided into small geographical areas called cells. **All 5G wireless devices in a cell are connected to the Internet and telephone network by radio waves through a local antenna in the cell.**
- **First generation – 1G**
1980s: 1G delivered analog voice.
- **Second generation – 2G**
Early 1990s: 2G introduced digital voice (e.g. CDMA- Code Division Multiple Access).
- **Third generation – 3G**
Early 2000s: 3G brought mobile data (e.g. CDMA2000).
- **Fourth generation – 4G LTE**
2010s: 4G LTE ushered in the era of mobile broadband.
- 1G, 2G, 3G, and 4G all led to 5G, which is designed to provide more connectivity than was ever available before.
- 5G is already here today, and global operators started launching new 5G networks in early 2019. In 2020, many countries expect nationwide 5G mobile networks. Also, all major Android phone manufacturers are commercializing 5G phones. And soon, even more people may be able to access 5G.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/18/what-is-5g-and-how-prepared-is-india-to-adapt-to-this-tech/>

116. With reference to communication technologies, what is/are the difference / differences between LTE (Long-Term Evolution) and VoLTE (Voice over Long-Term Evolution)?

1. LTE is commonly marketed as 3G and VoLTE is commonly marketed as advanced 3G.



2. LTE is data-only technology and VoLTE is voice-only technology.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- VoLTE is voice calls over a 4G LTE network, rather than the 2G or 3G connections. VoLTE can transmit data too. VoLTE has up to three times more voice and data capacity than 3G UMTS and up to six times more than 2G GSM. So, both 1 and 2 are wrong.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/18/what-is-5g-and-how-prepared-is-india-to-adapt-to-this-tech/>

117. Consider the following statements

1. He acted as de facto Commander-in-chief of the Indian army during the political integration of India and the Indo-Pakistani War of 1947.
2. He was appointed as the 49th President of Indian National Congress.
3. He was associated with Operation Polo.
4. He was posthumously conferred the Bharat Ratna.

The person associated with the above statements is?

- (a) Lal Bahadur Shastri
- (b) Vallabhbhai Patel
- (c) Jawaharlal Nehru
- (d) Chakravarthi Rajagopalachari

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- The above statements are associated with Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
- Operation Polo was the name used to refer to the Hyderabad Police Action which was essentially a military operation under which the Indian armed forces encroached the State of Hyderabad and defeated the Nizam, obtaining the state of Hyderabad for the Indian Union.
- **Kevadia:**
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently flagged off eight trains connecting Kevadia in Gujarat, where the Statue of Unity is located, to different regions of the country.



Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/18/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-18-january-2021/>

118. With the reference to educational institutions during rule in India, consider the following pairs:

Institution	Founder
1. Sanskrit College	William Jones at Banaras
2. Calcutta Madras	Warren Hastings
3. Fort William Arthur	Wellesley College

Which of the pairs given below is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2



- (b) 2 only
 (c) 1 and 3
 (d) 3 only
 Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Warren Hastings, himself an intellectual, set up the Calcutta Madrasa in 1781 for the study and learning of Persian and Arabic.
- In 1791 the efforts of Jonathan Duncan, the British Resident at Benares, bore fruit and a Sanskrit College was opened at Benares.
- Lord Richard Colley Wellesley (NOT ARTHUR WELLESLEY) took the first step for training of Civil Servants when he founded the Fort William College, in Calcutta in November 1800 where the Civil Servants of the Company were to receive training in the literature, science and languages of India.
- **Source:** (BL GROVER MODERN India, PAGE NO. 176 and 257)

Refer: UPSC CSE 2018

119. Regarding Wood's Dispatch, which of the following statements are true?

1. Grants-in-Aid system was introduced.
2. Establishment of universities was recommended.
3. English as a medium of instruction at all levels of education was recommended.

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: (a)

Explanation:

- Wood's Despatch is called Magna Carta of English Education in India. As per this despatch:
 - An education department was to be set in every province.
 - Universities on the model of the London University be established in big cities such as Bombay, Calcutta and Madras.
 - At least one government school be opened in every district.
 - Affiliated private schools should be given grant in aid.
 - The Indian natives should be given training in their mother tongue also.
 - In accordance with Wood's despatch, Education Departments were established in every province and universities were opened at Calcutta, Bombay and Madras in 1857 on the model of the London University.
 - Later more universities were opened in Punjab in 1882 and at Allahabad 1887.

Refer: UPSC CSE 2018

120. International Labour Organisation, Conventions 138 and 182 are related to

- (a) Child labour
 (b) Adaptation of agricultural practices to global climate change
 (c) Regulation of food prices and food security
 (d) Gender parity at the workplace

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- India ratified two fundamental conventions of the International Labour Organization namely, Minimum Age Convention (No 138) concerning minimum



age for admission to employment and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention (No 182) concerning the prohibition and immediate action for elimination of the worst forms of Child Labour.

Refer: UPSC CSE 2018

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

121. Recently 'Jaya Jaitley Committee' was in news, is related to which of the following?

- (a) Diaspora engagement in India
- (b) Covid-19 vaccination drive
- (c) Food Grain Management in India
- (d) None of the above

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The Government of India in a gazette notification issued on 04th June 2020, has set up a Task Force to **examine matters pertaining to age of motherhood, imperatives of lowering MMR, improvement of nutritional levels and related issues.**
- Context:
 - The task force was set up to take a re-look at the age of marriage for women has submitted its report to the Prime Minister's Office and the Ministry of Women and Child Development.
 - **It was headed by Jaya Jaitley.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/19/task-force-on-marriage-age-submits-report-to-pmo/>

122. Consider the following statements.

1. In Indra Sawhney vs Union of India, the Supreme Court held that reservations under Article 16(4) could only be provided at the time of entry into government service but not in matters of promotion.
2. In Nagaraj case the Supreme Court said that the State is bound to make reservation for the SCs and STs in promotions.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation: **Indra Sawhney vs Union of India and M Nagaraj case:**

- In its landmark 1992 decision in **Indra Sawhney vs Union of India, the Supreme Court had held that reservations under Article 16(4) could only be provided at the time of entry into government service but not in matters of promotion.**
- It added that the principle would operate only prospectively and not affect promotions already made and that reservation already provided in promotions shall continue in operation for a period of five years from the date of the judgment. It also ruled that the creamy layer can be and must be excluded.
- On June 17, 1995, Parliament, acting in its constituent capacity, adopted the seventy-seventh amendment by which clause (4A) was inserted into



Article 16 to enable reservation to be made in promotion for SCs and STs. The validity of the seventy-seventh and eighty-fifth amendments to the Constitution and of the legislation enacted in pursuance of those amendments was challenged before the Supreme Court in the **Nagaraj case**.

- Upholding the validity of Article 16 (4A), the court then said that it is an enabling provision. **“The State is not bound to make reservation for the SCs and STs in promotions.** But, if it seeks to do so, it must collect quantifiable data on three facets — the backwardness of the class; the inadequacy of the representation of that class in public employment; and the general efficiency of service as mandated by Article 335 would not be affected”.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/19/sc-directive-on-quota-in-promotions/>

123. Consider the following statements with respect to Attorney General of India:

1. He is not a member of Central Cabinet
 2. He is not part of the Union Executive
 3. He is not eligible to vote in the Parliament
 4. He is not debarred from private legal practice
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Context:**
 - The Supreme Court has asked **Attorney General K.K. Venugopal** to compile the various issues being raised by States with regard to the application of a Constitution Bench judgment of **2006 in M. Nagaraj case**.
 - The court in M. Nagaraj case had upheld the application of creamy layer principle to members of the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe communities in promotions.
- S1: **The AG is not a member of the Central cabinet.** There is a separate law minister in the Central cabinet to look after legal matters at the government level.
- S2: Articles 52 to 78 in Part V of the Constitution deal with the Union executive. **The Union executive consists of the President, the Vice-President, the Prime Minister, the council of ministers and the attorney general of India.**
- S3: He has the **right to speak and to take part in the proceedings of both the Houses of Parliament** or their joint sitting and any committee of the Parliament of which he may be named a member, **but without a right to vote.**
- S4: The Attorney General is not a full-time counsel for the Government. He does not fall in the category of government servants. **Further, he is not debarred from private legal practice.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/19/sc-directive-on-quota-in-promotions/>



124. These type of banks were set up to buy the illiquid holdings of another financial institution. The entity holding significant nonperforming assets will sell these holdings to these banks at market price, by transferring such assets to the these banks, the original institution may clear its balance sheet—although it will still be forced to take write-downs’.

The above given description refers to which of the following?

- (a) Shadow Banks
- (b) Lead banks
- (c) Regional Rural Banks
- (d) Bad Banks

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Context:**
 - The idea of setting up a bad bank to resolve the growing problem of non-performing assets (NPAs), or loans on which borrowers have defaulted, is back on the table.
- **Concept of Bad Bank:**
 - A bad bank is a bank set up to buy the bad loans and other illiquid holdings of another financial institution.
 - The entity holding significant nonperforming assets will sell these holdings to the bad bank at market price.
 - By transferring such assets to the bad bank, the original institution may clear its balance sheet—although it will still be forced to take write-downs.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/19/balance-sheet-of-a-bad-bank/>

125. Consider the following statements with reference to Limited Liability Partnership (LLP):

1. An LLP is a body corporate and legal entity separate from its partners.
2. The provisions of Indian Partnership Act, 1932 are applicable to an LLP.
3. It is regulated by the contractual agreement between the partners.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **What is a LLP?**
 - A **Limited Liability Partnership (LLP)** is a partnership in which some or all partners have limited liability. It therefore exhibits elements of partnerships and corporations.
 - In an LLP, **one partner is not responsible or liable for another partner’s misconduct or negligence.**
- **Salient features of an LLP:**
 - An LLP is a body corporate and legal entity separate from its partners. It has perpetual succession.
 - Being the separate legislation (i.e. LLP Act, 2008), the provisions of Indian Partnership Act, 1932 are not applicable to an LLP and it is regulated by the contractual agreement between the partners.
 - Every Limited Liability Partnership shall use the words “Limited Liability Partnership” or its acronym “LLP” as the last words of its name.



- **Composition:**

- Every LLP shall have at least two designated partners being individuals, at least one of them being resident in India and all the partners shall be the agent of the Limited Liability Partnership but not of other partners.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/19/limited-liability-partnership-llp/>

126. Consider the following statements:

1. In India, the registration of Geographical Indication (GI) is valid for a period of 20 years.
2. In India, Geographical Indication (GI) registration is administrated by the Trade Marks Act, 1999.

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 GI tag:**

- A GI is primarily an agricultural, natural or a manufactured product (handicrafts and industrial goods) originating from a definite geographical territory.
- Typically, such a name conveys an assurance of quality and distinctiveness, which is essentially attributable to the place of its origin.

- **Security:**

- Once the GI protection is granted, no other producer can misuse the name to market similar products. It also provides comfort to customers about the authenticity of that product.

- **Who is a registered proprietor of a geographical indication?**

- Any association of persons, producers, organisation or authority established by or under the law can be a registered proprietor.
- Their name should be entered in the Register of Geographical Indication as registered proprietor for the Geographical Indication applied for.

- **How long the registration of Geographical Indication is valid?**

- The registration of a geographical indication is valid for a period of 10 years.
- It can be renewed from time to time for further period of 10 years each.
- In India, Geographical Indications registration is administered by **the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999** which came into force with effect from September 2003. The first product in India to be accorded with GI tag was Darjeeling tea in the year 2004-05.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/19/gi-tag-sought-for-indias-costliest-mushroom/>

127. Recently, a geographical indication (GI) tag has been sought for one of the costliest mushrooms in the world that grows in some parts of India. It is found in the:

- (a) Temperate forests
- (b) Tropical Deciduous Forest
- (c) Equatorial Moist Evergreen
- (d) Coniferous Forest



Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Context:**
 - A geographical indication (GI) tag has been sought for one of the costliest mushrooms in the world that grows in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda district.
- **Key Points:**
 - Locally called **Gucchi, or Morel**, the mushroom, priced at over ₹20,000 a kg, is a forest produce collected by local farmers and tribals.
 - It is said to have medicinal and anti-inflammatory properties.
 - **It is found in the temperate forests.**



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/19/gi-tag-sought-for-indias-costliest-mushroom/>

128. The 'Desert Knight 21' is a bilateral Air exercise held between Indian Air Force and:

- (a) U.S. Air Force
- (b) Russian Air Force
- (c) Republic of Singapore Air Force
- (d) French Air and Space Force

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Desert Knight-21:**
- It is a bilateral Air exercise held between Indian Air Force and French Air and Space Force (Armée de l'Air et de l'Espace).
- The latest edition will be held at Air Force Station Jodhpur.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/19/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-19-january-2021/>

129. Which one of the following is the best description of 'Rakshita', that was in the news recently?

- (a) Amphibious warfare ship
- (b) Nuclear-powered submarine
- (c) Nuclear-powered aircraft carrier
- (d) None of the above

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Rakshita:**
- It is a **bike-based casualty transport emergency vehicle**.
- Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Allied Sciences (INMAS), Delhi based DRDO laboratory, handed over Rakshita to Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).
- The **bike ambulance** will help in overcoming the problems faced by Indian security forces and emergency healthcare providers.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/19/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-19-january-2021/>

130. Consider the following Rivers:

1. Dibang



2. Lohit
3. Kameng
4. Subansiri River

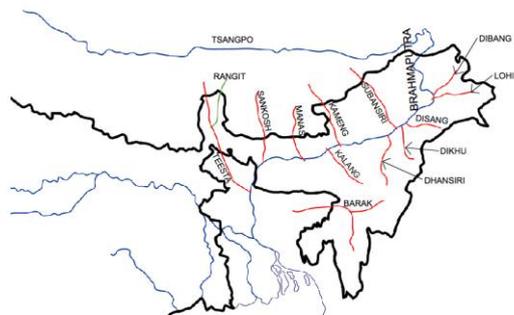
Which of the above are right bank tributaries of Brahmaputra?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **Tributaries of Brahmaputra River**

- Left: Dibang River, called by Dimasa tribe, Lohit River, Dhansiri River, Kolong River
- Right: **Kameng River**, Manas River, Beki River, Raidak River, Jaldhaka River, Teesta River, **Subansiri River**
-
- **Tsari Chu river:**
 - Satellite image shows China built new village in Arunachal.
 - The settlements are situated on **the banks of Tsari Chu river in Upper Subansiri district of Arunachal.**
 - The village lies south of the McMahon Line. The McMahon Line demarcates between Tibet and India's Northeast, which is disputed by China.



Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/19/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-19-january-2021/>

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

131. Consider the following statements:

1. The All India Forward Bloc (AIFB) is a left-wing nationalist political party in India.
2. AIFB emerged as a faction outside the Indian National Congress in 1939, led by Subhas Chandra Bose.

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: The All India Forward Bloc (AIFB) is a **left-wing nationalist political party** in India.
- S2: It emerged as a faction **within the Indian National Congress** in 1939, led by Subhas Chandra Bose. **The party re-established as an independent political party after the independence of India.**
- **About Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose:**



- Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose had announced the establishment of the provisional government of Azad Hind in occupied Singapore in
- Known as Arzi Hukumat-e-Azad Hind, it was supported by the Axis powers of Imperial Japan, Nazi Germany, the Italian Social Republic, and their allies.
- He had launched a struggle to free India from British rule under the banner of the provisional government-in exile during the latter part of the Second World War.
- Under his provisional government, the Indians living abroad had been united.
- Under the provisional government, Bose was the head of the state, the prime minister and the minister for war and foreign affairs.
- Subhash Chandra Bose was twice elected President of the Indian National Congress, (1938-Haripur and 1939-Tripuri).
- He resigned from the Congress Presidentship in 1939 and organised the All India Forward Bloc a faction within the Congress in Bengal.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/20/netajis-birth-anniversary-to-be-celebrated-as-parakram-divas/>

132. Consider the following statements with reference to Devices of Indian Parliamentary Proceedings:

1. The first hour of every parliamentary sitting is termed as Question hour.
2. Question Hour in both Houses is held on all days of the session.

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 Question Hour?**

- **The first hour of every parliamentary sitting is termed as Question hour.**
- It is mentioned in the Rules of Procedure of the House.
- During this time, the members ask questions and the ministers usually give answers.
- The questions can also be asked to the private members (MPs who are not ministers).
- **Question Hour in both Houses is held on all days of the session. But there are two days when an exception is made:**
 - There is no Question Hour on the day the President addresses MPs from both Houses in the Central Hall.
 - Question Hour is not scheduled on the day the Finance Minister presents the Budget.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/20/question-hour/>

133. Consider the following statements regarding Question Hour in Parliament.

1. The first hour of every parliamentary sitting is slotted for Question Hour where questions are asked only to Ministers and for private members it is asked in Zero Hour.
2. A starred question requires an oral answer and hence supplementary questions can follow.



3. Questions may lead to the appointment of a Commission, a Court of Enquiry or even Legislation.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The first hour of every parliamentary sitting is slotted for Question Hour. During this time, the members ask questions and the ministers usually give answers. The questions are of three kinds, namely, starred, unstarred and short notice.
- A starred question (distinguished by an asterisk) requires an oral answer and hence supplementary questions can follow.
- **In addition to the ministers, the questions can also be asked to the private members.** Thus, a question may be addressed to a private member if the subject matter of the question relates to some Bill, resolution or other matter connected with the business of the House for which that member is responsible.
- Questions enable Ministries to gauge the popular reaction to their policy and administration. Questions bring to the notice of the Ministers many loopholes which otherwise would have gone unnoticed. **Sometimes questions may lead to the appointment of a Commission, a Court of Enquiry or even Legislation when matters raised by Members are grave enough to agitate the public mind and are of wide public importance.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/20/question-hour/>

134. Consider the following statements:

Influenza A virus mutates constantly and this is because:

- 1. it is an RNA virus with a segmented genome
- 2. their genes can easily get mixed up
- 3. increased sensitivity to cold or heat

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Why does the flu A virus have so many strains?**
- Influenza A virus mutates constantly and this is because:
 - Firstly, **It is an RNA virus with a segmented genome**, i.e. it has eight separate strands, which makes its copying prone to errors or mutations. This 'antigenic drift' results in slight but continuous mutations in the surface proteins, which is the reason why flu vaccines have to be updated regularly.
 - Secondly, **when a cell happens to be infected with two different flu A viruses, their genes can easily get mixed up.** This mixing, known as reassortment, is a viral version of sex.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/20/why-bird-flu-virus-has-so-many-strains-and-what-it-means-for-humans/>

135. Consider the following statements regarding the S-400 Triumph missile:

1. It is a surface-to-air missile system (SAM) designed by Almaz Central Design Bureau of France.
2. The system can simultaneously engage multiple targets.

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:

- **The S-400 Triumph** is an air defence missile system developed by **Almaz Central Design Bureau of Russia**. The new system replaced the S-300P and S-200 air defence systems of the Russian Army.
- The S-400 Triumph 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.
- 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 simultaneously engage 36 targets.
- The S-400 is twice as effective as the previous Russian air defence systems and can be deployed within five minutes. It can also be integrated into the existing and future air defence units of the airforce, army and navy.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/20/military-specialists-to-get-s-400-training-in-moscow/>

136. The Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA) enables USA to impose sanctions on any country carrying out significant defence and energy trade with sanctioned entities in:

1. Russia
2. Iraq
3. North Korea

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **What is CAATSA, and how did the S-400 deal fall foul of this Act?**

- Countering America's Adversaries through Sanctions Act (CAATSA)'s core objective is to **counter Iran, Russia and North Korea** through punitive measures.
- The Act primarily deals with sanctions on Russian interests such as its oil and gas industry, defence and security sector, and financial institutions, in the backdrop of its military intervention in Ukraine and its alleged meddling in the 2016 US Presidential elections.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/20/military-specialists-to-get-s-400-training-in-moscow/>

137. West Bank is landlocked territory near the Mediterranean coast of Western Asia, bordered by:

1. Jordan and the Dead Sea to the east
2. Israel to the south only
3. Syria to the west

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **Where is West Bank?**

- It is a landlocked territory near the Mediterranean coast of Western Asia, bordered by Jordan to the east and by the Green Line separating it and Israel on the south, west and north. The West Bank also contains a significant section of the western Dead Sea shore.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/20/west-bank-and-issues-associated-4/>

138. Consider the following statements about Yamuna River:

1. The river Yamuna is a major tributary of river Ganges.
2. It originates from the Yamunotri glacier near Bandarpoonch peaks in the Mussoorie range of the higher Himalayas in Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand.
3. It meets the Ganges at the Sangam in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh after flowing through Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **About Yamuna River:**

- The river Yamuna is a major tributary of river Ganges.
- Originates from the Yamunotri glacier near Bandarpoonch peaks in the Mussoorie range of the **lower Himalayas** in Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand.
- It meets the Ganges at the Sangam in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh after flowing through **Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi**.
- Tributaries: Chambal, Sindh, Betwa and Ken.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/20/sc-seeks-status-report-on-river-water-quality/>

139. Which one of the following protected areas is well known for the conservation and has earned the name for being the only rehabilitation centre for the Indian star tortoise in India?

- (a) Nauradehi wildlife sanctuary
- (b) Phansad Wildlife Sanctuary



(c) Netravali Wildlife Sanctuary

(d) Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary** is one of 18 wildlife sanctuaries among the **protected** areas of **Kerala**. It has earned the name for being the only rehabilitation centre for the **Indian star tortoise in India**. It is under the jurisdiction of and contiguous with **Eravikulam National Park** to the south.
- **Indian star tortoise:**
 - Found across the Indian sub-continent, more specifically, in the Central and Southern parts of India, in West Pakistan and in Sri Lanka.
 - Protected under Schedule IV of Wild Life Protection Act 1972.
 - Convention on International Trade in Species (CITES): Appendix I
 - IUCN Status: Vulnerable.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/20/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-19-january-2021-2/>

140. Consider the following statements:

1. Semeru is an active volcano, erupted recently.
2. It is the highest mountain on the island of Java, Indonesia.

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: Semeru volcano:

- Erupted recently.
- Located in Indonesia's East Java province.
- It is the highest volcano in Java and one of the most active.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/20/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-19-january-2021-2/>

RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 21st-Jan-2021

141. With reference Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, Consider the following statements:

1. In Bombay, Savarkar founded the “Abhinav Bharat Society”.
2. In his book, The History of the war of Indian Independence, Savarkar wrote about the guerilla warfare tricks used in 1857 Sepoy Mutiny.
3. He founded the two-nation theory in his book ‘Hindutva’ calling Hindus and Muslims two separate nations.

Which of the given 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: **Who is Veer Savarkar?**

- Born on May 28, 1883 in Bhagur, a city in Maharashtra's Nashik.



- In his teenage, Savarkar formed a youth organization. Known as **Mitra Mela**, this organization was put into place to bring in national and revolutionary ideas.
- He was **against foreign goods and propagated the idea of Swadeshi**. In 1905, he burnt all the foreign goods in a bonfire on Dussehra.
- He championed atheism and rationality and also disapproved orthodox Hindu belief. In fact, he even dismissed cow worship as superstitious.
- **S1:** In Pune, Savarkar founded **the “Abhinav Bharat Society”**.
- **S2:** In his book, **The History of the war of Indian Independence**, Savarkar wrote about the guerilla warfare tricks used in 1857 Sepoy Mutiny.
- The book was banned by Britishers, but **Madam Bhikaji Cama published** the book in Netherlands, Germany and France, which eventually reached many Indian revolutionaries.
- He was arrested in 1909 on charges of plotting **an armed revolt against the Morle-Minto reform**.
- He also Worked on abolishment of untouchability in Ratnagiri. Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar also compared his work to Lord Buddha.
- **S3:** He founded **the two-nation theory in his book ‘Hindutva’** calling Hindus and Muslims two separate nations. In 1937, Hindu Mahasabha passed it as a resolution.
- It was in year 1964, when Savarkar declared his wish to **attain Samadhi and started hunger-strike on February 1, 1966** and passed away on February 26, 1966. He believed that his purpose of life is solved as India has gained Independence.
- In 2002, Port Blair airport at Andaman and Nicobar’s Island was renamed after Veer Savarkar International Airport.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/21/veer-savarkar-4/>

142. Regarding Money Bill, which of the following statements is not correct?

- A bill shall be deemed to be money bill if it contains only provisions related to imposition, abolition, remission, alteration or regulation of any tax.
- A Money Bill has provisions for the custody of the Consolidated Fund of India or the Contingency Fund of India.
- A Money Bill is concerned with appropriation of moneys out of the Contingency Fund of India.
- A Money Bill deals with the regulation of borrowing of money or giving of any guarantee by the government of India.

Ans: (c)

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

- **A110. Definition of Money Bill**
- (1) For the purposes of this Chapter, a Bill shall be deemed to be a Money Bill if it contains only provisions dealing with all or any of the following matters, namely
 - (a) the imposition, abolition, remission, alteration or regulation of any tax;
 - (b) the regulation of the borrowing of money or the giving of any guarantee by the Government of India, or the amendment of the law with respect to any financial obligations undertaken or to be undertaken by the Government of India;
 - (c) the custody of the consolidated Fund or the Contingency Fund of India, the payment of moneys into or the withdrawal of moneys from any such Fund;
 - (d) **the appropriation of moneys out of the consolidated Fund of India (not Contingency Fund of India). So, C is incorrect.**



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/21/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-21-january-2021/>

143. Consider the following gatemmen.

1. Aadhaar card can be used as a proof of citizenship or domicile.
2. Once issued, Aadhaar number cannot be deactivated or omitted by the Issuing Authority.

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: (d)

Explanation:

- S1 is wrong because as per Calcutta HC decision **Aadhar Card is not a proof of citizenship.**
- S2 is wrong because UIDAI's update policy version 2.3.1 (available on the official website uidai.gov.in) has **provisions for deactivation of Aadhaar**, which can be accessed from the given link:
https://uidai.gov.in/images/mou/uidai_data_update_policy_ver_2.3.1.pdf

Source: UPSC CSE 2018

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/21/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-21-january-2021/>

144. Consider the following statements

1. Aadhar metadata cannot be stored for more than three months
2. State cannot enter into any contract with private corporations for sharing of Aadhar data
3. Aadhar is mandatory for obtaining insurance products
4. Aadhar is mandatory for getting benefits funded out of the consolidated fund of India

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **S1:** Aadhaar authentication data can't be retained beyond 6 months, said Supreme Court, see <https://www.financialexpress.com/aadhaar-card/aadhaar-authentication-data-cant-be-retained-beyond-6-months-says-supreme-court/1328066/>
- **S2:** This is correct, see the SC judgment here <https://sflc.in/key-highlights-aadhaar-judgment> This was done in order to protect a citizen's right to privacy.
- **S3:** IRDAI (Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India) has clarified that Aadhaar is not required to buy an insurance policy.
- **S4:** Correct, see <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/aadhaar-for-welfare-schemes-a-legitimate-exercise-says-supreme-court/story-rhb0kccKthpJRNnSvukzmO.html>

Source: UPSC CSE 2020



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/21/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-21-january-2021/>

145. Consider the following statements:

1. Speaker of the legislative assembly shall vacate his/her office if he/she ceases to be a member of the assembly
2. Whenever the legislative assembly is dissolved the speaker shall vacate his/her office immediately

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: (a)

Explanation:

- **S1:** Usually, the speaker remains in office during the life of the assembly. However, he vacates his office earlier in any of the following cases:
 - **If he ceases to be a member of the assembly**
 - If he resigns by writing to the deputy speaker and;
 - If he is removed by a resolution passed by a majority of all the then members of the assembly. Such a resolution can be moved only after giving 14 days advance notice
- **S2** is incorrect because the Speaker holds office from the date of her election till immediately before the first meeting of the Legislative assembly after the dissolution of the one to which she was elected. She is eligible for re-election. On the dissolution of the Legislative assembly, **although the Speaker ceases to be a member of the House, she does not vacate her office.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/21/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-21-january-2021/>

146. Consider the following statements with reference to Public interest litigation in India:

1. It was introduced by Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, the independent India's first Minister of Law and Justice.
2. A PIL may be filed against state government, central government, municipal authority not any private party.

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:** Public interest litigation (PIL) refers to litigation undertaken to secure public interest and demonstrates the availability of justice to socially-disadvantaged parties and **was introduced by Justice P. N. Bhagwati.**
- **S2: Parties against whom PILs can be filed**
 - A PIL may be filed against state government, central government, municipal authority not any private party. But, private person may be included in PIL as 'Respondent', after concerned of state authority. i.e. a private factory in Mumbai which is causing pollution then public interest litigation can be filed against government of Mumbai, state pollution central board including that private factory of Mumbai.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/21/karnataka-prevention-of-slaughter-and-preservation-of-cattle-ordinance-2020/>

147. Consider the following statements:

1. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India was established in 2016 under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (Code).
2. The IBBI covers Individuals, Companies, Limited Liability Partnerships and Partnership firms.

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:

- The **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)** is the regulator for overseeing insolvency proceedings and entities like Insolvency Professional Agencies (IPA), Insolvency Professionals (IP) and Information Utilities (IU) in India.
- It was **established on 1 October 2016 and given statutory powers through the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code**, which was passed by Lok Sabha on 5 May 2016.
- **It covers Individuals, Companies, Limited Liability Partnerships and Partnership firms.** The new code will speed up the resolution process for stressed assets in the country. It attempts to simplify the process of insolvency and bankruptcy proceedings. It handles the cases using two tribunals like NCLT (National company law tribunal) and Debt recovery tribunal.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/21/sc-upholds-ibcs-section-32a-why-is-it-important-what-are-the-implications/>

148. The India Innovation Index 2020 was released by:

- (a) Cell for IPR promotion and Management
- (b) National Innovation Foundation – India
- (c) Science and Engineering Research Board
- (d) NITI Aayog

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Second edition of the **NITI Aayog's India Innovation Index** has been released.
- **Performance of various states:**
 - Karnataka is the most innovative state for the second year in a row.
 - Maharashtra pipped Tamil Nadu to the second spot.
 - Bihar was featured at the bottom of the list.
- **About the index:**
 - The index attempts to create an extensive framework for the continual evaluation of the innovation environment of states and union territories in India and intends to perform the following three functions:
 - Ranking of states and UTs based on their index scores.
 - Recognizing opportunities and challenges.
 - Assisting in tailoring governmental policies to foster innovation.
- The Index is calculated as the average of the scores of its two dimensions – Enablers and Performance.



- The Enablers are the factors that underpin innovative capacities, grouped in five pillars: (1) Human Capital, (2) Investment, (3) Knowledge Workers, (4) Business Environment, and (5) Safety and Legal Environment.
- The Performance dimension captures benefits that a nation derives from the inputs, divided in two pillars: (6) Knowledge Output and (7) Knowledge Diffusion.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/21/india-innovation-index-by-niti-aayog/>

149. Consider the following statements:

1. Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR) is a secured interbank overnight interest rate and reference rate.
2. SOFR is based on the Treasury repurchase market (repo), Treasuries loaned or borrowed overnight.

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:

- **What Is the Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR)?**
- SBI does deals using SOFR as benchmark.
- SOFR is a secured interbank overnight interest rate and reference rate.
- It is based on the Treasury repurchase market (repo), Treasuries loaned or borrowed overnight.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/21/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-21-january-2021/>

150. With reference to Customs & Indian Traditions, the term 'Risa' is associated with which of the following?

- (a) Indian hand woven fabric
- (b) Indian classical dance
- (c) Indian classical music
- (d) Indian Food Culture

Ans: (a)

Explanation: **Tripura CM promoting the Risa:**

- **Risa** is a **customary hand woven cloth** used by Tripura's indigenous tribal communities.
- It is one of the **three parts of customary Tripura female attire, the other two being the Rignai and Rikutu.**
- The Risa is used as a head gear, stole and female upper cloth or presented to honour a distinguished recipient.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/21/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-21-january-2021/>



RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 22nd -Jan-2021

151. Consider the following pairs:

<i>Martial art forms</i>	<i>State</i>
1. Gatka	Punjab
2. Thang-ta	Sikkim
3. Kalaripayattu	Kerala

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

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- The Khelo India Youth games were launched in 2018 as a multidisciplinary grassroots event for under-17 years and under-21 years.
- Conducted annually, the best performers are given an annual scholarship of ₹5 lakh for eight years to prepare for international sporting events.
- In a recent move, the Sports Ministry inducted four indigenous martial art forms — **Kalaripayattu of Kerala, Mallakhamb of Central India, Gatka of Punjab and Thang-ta of Manipur** — into the Khelo India Youth Games (KIYG).

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/22/four-indigenous-martial-art-forms-included-in-khelo-india-youth-games/>

152. Consider the following statements:

1. It is a Martial art which originated as a style in Kerala during 3rd century BC to the 2nd century AD.
2. Like most Indian martial arts, it contains rituals and philosophies inspired by Hinduism.
3. It is believed to be the oldest surviving martial art in India

Above statements refers to which of the following indigenous martial art forms?

- (a) Kalaripayattu
 (b) Mallakhamb
 (c) Gatka
 (d) Thang-ta

Ans: (a)

Explanation: **Kalaripayattu:**

- It is a Martial art which originated as a style in Kerala during 3rd century BC to the 2nd century AD.
- The word kalari first appears in Sangam literature to describe both a battlefield and combat arena.
- It is also considered to be one of the oldest fighting system in existence.
- Like most Indian martial arts, Kalaripayattu contains rituals and philosophies inspired by Hinduism

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/22/four-indigenous-martial-art-forms-included-in-khelo-india-youth-games/>

153. Which of the following pardoning powers of President is/are also available to Governors?

1. He can suspend or commute a death sentence.



2. He can grant pardon, reprieve, respite, suspension, remission or commutation in respect to punishment or sentence by a court-martial.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

Table 26.3 Comparing Pardoning Powers of President and Governor

President	Governor
1. He can pardon, reprieve, respite, remit, suspend or commute the punishment or sentence of any person convicted of any offence against a Central law.	1. He can pardon, reprieve, respite, remit, suspend or commute the punishment or sentence of any person convicted of any offence against a state law.
2. He can pardon, reprieve, respite, remit, suspend or commute a death sentence. He is the only authority to pardon a death sentence.	2. He cannot pardon a death sentence. Even if a state law prescribes for death sentence, the power to grant pardon lies with the President and not the governor. But, the governor can suspend, remit or commute a death sentence.
3. He can grant pardon, reprieve, respite, suspension, remission or commutation in respect to punishment or sentence by a court-martial (military court).	3. He does not possess any such power.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/22/mercy-plea-of-rajiv-case-convict/>

154. Consider the following statements with reference to pardoning power of the President of India:

- The pardoning power of the President is independent of the Judiciary.
- While exercising this power, President of India sit as a court of appeal.
- The President can pardon death sentence while governor cannot.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

- 1 and 2
- 2 and 3
- 1 and 3
- 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Article 72 of the Constitution empowers the President to grant pardons to persons** who have been tried and convicted of any offence in all cases where the:
 - Punishment or sentence is for an offence against a Union Law;
 - Punishment or sentence is by a court martial (military court); and
 - Sentence is a sentence of death.
- **S1 and S2: The pardoning power of the President is independent of the Judiciary;** it is an executive power. But, the **President while exercising this power, does not sit as a court of appeal.**
- The object of conferring this power on the President is two-fold: (a) to keep the door open for correcting any judicial errors in the operation of law; and, (b) to afford relief from a sentence, which the President regards as unduly harsh.
- **S3: The President can pardon death sentence while governor cannot.** Even if a state law prescribes death sentence, the power to grant pardon lies with the President and not the governor. However, the governor can suspend, remit or commute a death sentence

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/22/mercy-plea-of-rajiv-case-convict/>



155. Consider the following statements regarding the funding of World Health Organization (WHO).

1. World Health Organization (WHO) is funded entirely by its member countries.
2. India is a member state of the WHO South East Asia Region.
3. The decision on which country gets how much funds depends on the situation in the countries.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- WHO is funded by a large number of countries, philanthropic organizations, United Nations organizations etc. According to information uploaded by WHO, voluntary donations from member states (such as the US) contribute 35.41%, assessed contributions are 15.66%, philanthropic organisations account for 9.33%, UN organizations contribute about 8.1%; the rest comes from myriad sources.
- **India is a member state of the WHO South East Asia Region.**
- The annual programme of work is passed by WHO's decision-making body, the World Health Assembly. The decision on which country gets how much depends on the situation in the countries.
- **How is the WHO funded?**
- There are four kinds of contributions that make up funding for the WHO. These are:
 - **Assessed contributions** are the dues countries pay in order to be a member of the Organization. The amount each Member State must pay is calculated relative to the country's wealth and population.
 - **Voluntary contributions** come from Member States (in addition to their assessed contribution) or from other partners. They can range from flexible to highly earmarked.
 - **Core voluntary contributions** allow less well-funded activities to benefit from a better flow of resources and ease implementation bottlenecks that arise when immediate financing is lacking.
 - **Pandemic Influenza Preparedness (PIP)** Contributions were started in 2011 to improve and strengthen the sharing of influenza viruses with human pandemic potential, and to increase the access of developing countries to vaccines and other pandemic related supplies.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/22/u-s-resumes-who-support/>

156. With reference to Geography of Taiwan, Consider the following statements:

1. The East China Sea lies to its north.
2. The Philippine Sea lies to its east.
3. The Luzon Strait lies directly to its south.
4. The South China Sea lies to its southwest.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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



Ans: (d)

Explanation:”

- Taiwan is an island country in East Asia
- **The East China Sea lies to its north, the Philippine Sea to its east, the Luzon Strait directly to its south and the South China Sea to its southwest.**
- Smaller islands include a number in the Taiwan Strait including the Penghu archipelago, the Kinmen and Matsu Islands near the Chinese coast, and some of the South China Sea Islands.
-



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/22/taiwan-invited-to-inauguration-in-a-rare-shift/>

157. With reference to various Shapes of economic recovery, consider the following statements:

1. In V-shaped recovery the economy quickly recoups lost ground and gets back to the normal growth trend-line.
 2. In J-shaped recovery the economy quickly rises like a phoenix after a crash.
- 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 Z-shaped recovery** is the most-optimistic scenario in which the economy quickly rises like a phoenix after a crash. It more than makes up for lost ground (think revenge-buying after the lockdowns are lifted) before settling back to the normal trend-line, thus forming a Z-shaped chart.
- **In V-shaped recovery** the economy quickly recoups lost ground and gets back to the normal growth trend-line.
- **The J-shaped recovery** is a somewhat unrealistic scenario, in which growth rises sharply from the lows much higher than the trend-line and stays there.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/22/rbi-sees-v-shaped-recovery-likely-room-for-policy-easing/>

158. Consider the following statements about Law commission of India:

1. It is an executive body established by an order of the Government of India.
2. A retired Supreme Court judge or Chief Justice of a High Court will head the Commission.

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:

- **About the law commission of India:**
 - It is an executive body established by an order of the Government of India.
 - Originally formed in 1955, the commission is reconstituted every three years and so far, 277 reports have been submitted to the government.
 - The last Law Commission, under Justice B.S. Chauhan (retd.), had submitted reports and working papers on key issues such as simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha and the Assemblies and a uniform civil code.
 - Prior to independence, the First Law Commission was established in 1834 by the British Government under the Chairmanship of Lord Macaulay.
- **Composition:**
 - Apart from having a full-time chairperson, the commission will have four full-time members, including a member-secretary.
 - Law and Legislative Secretaries in the Law Ministry will be the ex-officio members of the commission.
 - It will also have not more than five part-time members.
 - A retired Supreme Court judge or Chief Justice of a High Court will head the Commission.
- **Roles and functions:**
 - The Law Commission shall, on a reference made to it by the Central Government or suo motu, undertake research in law and review of existing laws in India for making reforms and enacting new legislation.
 - It shall also undertake studies and research for bringing reforms in the justice delivery systems for elimination of delay in procedures, speedy disposal of cases, reduction in cost of litigation, etc.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/22/fb-official-says-he-has-right-to-remain-silent/>

159. Consider the following statements about AstroSat:

1. It is India's first multi-wavelength space telescope.
2. It was launched in 2015 by ISRO into a geosynchronous orbit.

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 AstroSat:

- AstroSat is **India's first multi-wavelength space telescope**, which has five telescopes seeing through different wavelengths simultaneously — visible, near UV, far UV, soft X-ray and hard X-ray.
- Onboard the AstroSat is a 38-cm wide UltraViolet Imaging Telescope (UVIT), which is capable of imaging in far and near-ultraviolet bands over a wide field of view.
- AstroSat was launched on 28 September 2015 by ISRO **into a near-Earth equatorial orbit**.



- It is a multi-institute collaborative project, involving IUCAA, ISRO, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (Mumbai), Indian Institute of Astrophysics (Bengaluru), and Physical Research Laboratory (Ahmedabad), among others.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/22/astrosat/>

160. A large scale Joint Military exercise 'Exercise Kavach' involving assets of Indian Army, Indian Navy, Indian Air Force and Indian Coast Guard is being conducted in the coming week under the aegis of the:

- Strategic Forces Command
- Maritime Theatre Command
- Andaman and Nicobar Command
- Integrated Defence Staff

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **Exercise Kavach:**

- It is a Joint Military exercise involving assets of Indian Army, Indian Navy, Indian Air Force and Indian Coast Guard.
- It is being conducted in the coming week under the aegis of the **Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC), the only Joint Forces Command of the country.**
- The tri-services exercise aims to fine tune joint war-fighting capabilities and SOPs towards enhancing operational synergy.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/22/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-22-january-2021/>

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**RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 23rd-Jan-2021**

161. Consider the following statements:

1. The Speaker of Assembly is elected by the assembly itself from amongst its members.
2. The Speaker of Assembly resigns by writing to the deputy speaker.

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:

- The Speaker is elected by the assembly itself from amongst its members. Usually, the Speaker remains in office during the life of the assembly.
- However, he vacates his office earlier in any of the following three cases: 1. if he ceases to be a member of the assembly; 2. **if he resigns by writing to the deputy speaker**; and 3. if he is removed by a resolution passed by a majority of all the then members of the assembly. Such a resolution can be moved only after giving 14 days advance notice.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/23/kerala-assembly-rejects-motion-to-remove-speaker/>

162. Consider the following statements:

1. Speaker of the legislative assembly shall vacate his/her office if he/she ceases to be a member of the assembly
2. Whenever the legislative assembly is dissolved the speaker shall vacate his/her office immediately

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: (a)

Explanation:

- S1: Usually, the speaker remains in office during the life of the assembly. However, he vacates his office earlier in any of the following cases:
 - **If he ceases to be a member of the assembly**
 - If he resigns by writing to the deputy speaker and;
 - If he is removed by a resolution passed by a majority of all the then members of the assembly. Such a resolution can be moved only after giving 14 days advance notice
- S2 is incorrect because the Speaker holds office from the date of her election till immediately before the first meeting of the Legislative assembly after the dissolution of the one to which she was elected. She is eligible for re-election. On the dissolution of the Legislative assembly, **although the Speaker ceases to be a member of the House, she does not vacate her office.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/23/kerala-assembly-rejects-motion-to-remove-speaker/>



163. With reference to production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme, consider the following statements:

1. It was notified in 2020 as a part of the National Manufacturing Policy.
2. It proposes a financial incentive to boost domestic manufacturing and attract large investments in the electronics value chain.

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 the PLI scheme:**

- To make India a manufacturing hub, the government had initially announced the PLI scheme for mobile phones, pharma products, and medical equipment sectors.
 - **Notified on April 1, 2020 as a part of the National Policy on Electronics.**
 - It proposes a financial incentive to boost domestic manufacturing and attract large investments in the electronics value chain.
- In November 2020, the Union Cabinet gave its approval to introduce the Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme in 10 more sectors for enhancing India's manufacturing capabilities and exports (Atmanirbhar Bharat).

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/23/pli-scheme/>

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Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI) for Large Scale Electronics Manufacturing

- Incentive:** 4% to 6% on incremental sales (over base year) of goods manufactured in India
- Target Segments:** Mobile phones and specified electronic components
- Eligibility:** Subject to thresholds of incremental investment and incremental sales of manufactured goods
- Tenure of the Scheme:** Five years subsequent to the base year as defined (FY19-20)

164. Consider the following statements with reference to Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM):

1. It was formed by an ordinance in October 2020.
2. CAQM will supersede all existing bodies, including the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).
3. Only the National Green Tribunal (NGT), and not civil courts, is authorised to hear cases where the Commission is involved.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- S1: The Commission for Air Quality Management was formed by an ordinance in October 2020, the “**Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM)** in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas Ordinance 2020”.
- S2: CAQM will supersede all existing bodies, including the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), as well as state governments in matters of air pollution mitigation.
- S3: Only the National Green Tribunal (NGT), and not civil courts, is authorised to hear cases where the Commission is involved.



- **Composition:**
 - Chairperson: To be chaired by a government official of the rank of Secretary or Chief Secretary.
 - It will be a permanent body and will have over 20 members.
 - The Commission will be a statutory authority.
 - The Commission will supersede bodies such as the central and state pollution control boards of Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, UP and Rajasthan.
 - It will have the powers to issue directions to these state governments on issues pertaining to air pollution.
- **Jurisdiction:**
 - Exclusive jurisdiction over the NCR, including areas in Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, in matters of air pollution, and will be working along with CPCB and ISRO, apart from the respective state governments.
- **Will this new body also have penal powers?**
 - Yes, the Commission will have some teeth. If its directions are contravened, through say, the setting up of an industrial unit in a restricted area, the Commission will have the power to impose a fine of up to Rs 1 crore and imprisonment of up to 5 years.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/23/commission-for-air-quality-management-caqm/>

165. Consider the following statements:

1. NASA's Parker Solar Probe will be the first-ever mission to "touch" the Sun.
2. The solar corona is the outermost layer of the Sun's atmosphere.
3. Sunspots always appear in pairs of opposite magnetic polarity.

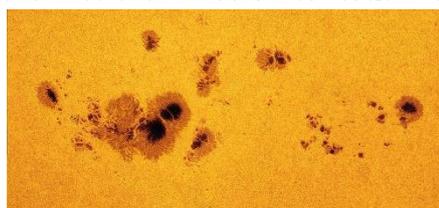
Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Link:** S1: NASA's **Parker Solar Probe** will be the first-ever **mission** to "touch" the **Sun**. The **spacecraft**, about the size of a small car, will travel directly into the **Sun's** atmosphere about 4 million miles from the surface. **Parker Solar Probe** launched aboard a Delta IV-Heavy rocket from Cape Canaveral, Aug.
- S2: **The solar corona** is the **outermost layer of the Sun's atmosphere** that extends millions of kilometres into outer space.
- S3: Sunspots are temporary phenomena on the Sun's photosphere that appear as spots darker than the surrounding areas. They are regions of reduced surface temperature caused by concentrations of magnetic field flux that inhibit convection. **Sunspots usually appear in pairs of opposite magnetic polarity. Their number varies according to the approximately 11-year solar cycle. Individual sunspots or groups of sunspots may last anywhere from a few days to a few months, but eventually decay.**



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/23/parker-solar-probe-2/>



166. Consider the following statements about the Arctic Council:

1. It is a treaty-based international organization which addresses issues faced by the Arctic governments and people living in the Arctic region.
2. The decisions, recommendations or guidelines of the Arctic Council are non-enforceable and strictly the prerogative of the individual state.
3. Its mandate explicitly excludes military security.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **About Arctic council:**

- 1996 – **Ottawa declaration.**
- It is an Intergovernmental forum which addresses issues faced by the Arctic governments and people living in the Arctic region
- It is **Not a treaty-based international organization** but rather an international forum that operates on the basis of **consensus.**
- The decisions, recommendations or guidelines of the Arctic Council are **non-enforceable** and strictly the prerogative of the individual state.
- Its mandate explicitly **excludes military security.**
- **Organization structure:**
 - a) Chairmanship: rotated every two years once
 - b) Secretariat:
 - Rotated biennially with the Chairmanship of the Arctic Council
 - It supports the Chair of the Arctic Council
 - It manages logistics related to the biennial member states' meetings and the more frequent SAO meetings.
 - c) SAO (Senior Arctic Official): a government representative, usually from a member states' Ministry of Foreign Affairs. SAO guides and monitors Arctic Council activities in accordance with the decisions and instructions of the Arctic Council Foreign Ministers.
- **Who takes part?**
 - The Ottawa Declaration lists the following countries as **Members of the Arctic Council:** Canada, the Kingdom of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, the Russian Federation, Sweden and the United States.
 - In addition, six organizations representing Arctic indigenous peoples have status as **Permanent Participants.** The category of Permanent Participant was created to provide for active participation and full consultation with the Arctic indigenous peoples within the Council. They include: the Aleut International Association, the Arctic Athabaskan Council, Gwich'in Council International, the Inuit Circumpolar Council, Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North and the Saami Council.
- **Observer status** in the Arctic Council is open to non-Arctic states, along with inter-governmental, inter-parliamentary, global, regional and non-governmental organizations that the Council determines can contribute to its work. Arctic Council Observers primarily contribute through their engagement in the Council at the level of Working Groups.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/23/india-proposes-to-expand-research-tourism-in-the-arctic/>



167. Recently 'Srikrishna Committee' was in news, is associated with which of the following?

- (a) Doubling the farmers income
- (b) Food grain management
- (c) Data protection framework for India
- (d) Cyber security and insurance

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The draft personal data protection Bill 2018, submitted by the Justice B.N. Srikrishna-headed expert panel has proposed that critical personal data of Indian citizens be processed in centres located within the country.
- The right to privacy is a fundamental right which necessitates protection of personal data as an essential facet of informational privacy says the draft Personal Data Protection bill, 2018.
- The much-awaited bill is under the government's review and has been made public for inviting suggestions

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- ▶ Data Protection Authority of India (DPA), an independent regulatory body responsible for the **enforcement and effective implementation** of the law, will be established
- ▶ An appellate tribunal to be established or grant powers to an **existing appellate tribunal** to hear and dispose of any appeal against an order of the DPA
- ▶ The panel has identified **50 statutes and regulations**, which have potential overlap with the data protection framework
- ▶ The Aadhaar Act needs to be amended to **bolster data protection**, and the committee has suggested some amendments
- ▶ The law will cover processing of personal data by both **public and private entities**

The data protection law will be like a new shoe, tight in the beginning but comfortable eventually.

Justice B.N. Srikrishna

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/23/new-whatsapp-policy-and-related-privacy-issues/>

168. Consider the following statements about the Financial Action Task Force's (FATF):

1. It is an inter-governmental body established in 1989 on the initiative of the G20.
2. The FATF Secretariat is housed at the OECD headquarters in Paris.
3. Initially it was established to examine and develop measures to combat money laundering.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **About FATF:**
 - The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is an inter-governmental body established in 1989 on the initiative of the G7.
 - It is a "policy-making body" which works to generate the necessary political will to bring about national legislative and regulatory reforms in various areas.
 - The FATF Secretariat is housed at the OECD headquarters in Paris.
- **Roles and functions:**
 - Initially it was established to examine and develop measures to combat money laundering.
 - In October 2001, the FATF expanded its mandate to incorporate efforts to combat terrorist financing, in addition to money laundering.
 - In April 2012, it added efforts to counter the financing of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/23/pakistan-risks-fatf-blacklisting/>



169. Consider the following statements about the Spices Board:

1. It is a body under the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.
2. It is an autonomous body responsible for the promotion of the 275 scheduled spices and the development of small and large cardamom.

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: **Spices Board:**

- Spices Board is a body under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- It was constituted in 1987 under the Spices Board Act, 1986 by merging the Cardamom Board and the Spices Export Promotion Council.
- The Spices Board is one of the five commodity boards functioning under the Commerce Ministry.
- It is an autonomous body responsible for the promotion of the 52 scheduled spices and the development of small and large cardamom.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/23/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-23-january-2021/>

170. The terms 'Black list' and 'Grey list' sometimes mentioned news recently are associated with which of the following:

- (a) World Trade Organization
- (b) World Health Organization
- (c) Financial Action Task Force
- (d) International Criminal Police Organization

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **What Is FATF Grey List?**
 - FATF grey list contains Countries that are considered as safe haven for supporting terror funding and money laundering are put in the FATF grey list. **The inclusion in the grey list serves as a warning to the country that it might enter the blacklist if strict actions against terrorism and money laundering are not taken.**
- **What Is Black List?**
 - Countries that are known as **Non-Cooperative Countries or Territories (NCCTs)** are put in the blacklist. Countries in this list support terror funding and money laundering activities. The FATF revises the blacklist regularly, adding or deleting entries.
- **Financial Action Task Force (FATF)** is an inter-governmental body that was established in the year **1989 during the G7 Summit by the Ministers of its Member jurisdictions.** The major objectives of the FATF are to **set standards and also promote the effective implementation of legal regulatory and operational measures in order to combat money laundering, terrorist financing and other such threats to the integrity of the global financial system.** The FATF is an organization that works to generate the necessary political will to bring about national legislative and regulatory reforms in the aforementioned areas. The FATF Secretariat is housed at the Organisation Economic Co-operation and Development **headquarters in Paris, France.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/23/pakistan-risks-fatf-blacklisting/>



RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 25th-Jan-2021

171. Consider the following statements:

1. The Bhima Koregaon battle was part of the Second Anglo Maratha war.
2. Madhavrao II was the peshwa of the Marathas during Bhima Koregaon battle.

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: (d)

Explanation:

- **About the Bhima- Koregaon battle:**
 - A battle was fought in Bhima Koregaon, a district in Pune with a strong historical Dalit connection, between the Peshwa forces and the British on January 1, 1818.
 - The British army, which comprised mainly of Dalit soldiers, fought the upper caste-dominated Peshwa army. The British troops defeated the Peshwa army.
- **Outcomes of the battle:**
 - The victory was seen as a win against caste-based discrimination and oppression. Peshwas were notorious for their oppression and persecution of Mahar dalits. The victory in the battle over Peshwas gave dalits a moral victory a victory against caste-based discrimination and oppression and sense of identity.
 - However, the divide and rule policy of the British created multiple fissures in Indian society which is even visible today in the way of excessive caste and religious discrimination which needs to be checked keeping in mind the tenets of the Constitution.
- S1: **The battle was part of the Third Anglo Maratha war**, a series of battles that culminated in the defeat of the Maratha empire and subsequent rule of the British East India Company in nearly all of Western, Central and Southern India
- S2: **A 28,000-strong force led by Peshwa Baji Rao II whilst on their way to attack the company-held Pune**, were unexpectedly met by an 800-strong Company force that was on its way to reinforce the British troops in Pune.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/25/bhima-koregaon-battle/>

172. Mahad Satyagraha or Chavdar Tale Satyagraha was led by:

- (a) Gopal Babu Walangkar
- (b) Jyotiba Phule
- (c) Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi
- (d) Bhimarao Ramji Ambedkar

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Mahad Satyagraha or Chavdar Tale Satyagraha was a satyagraha **led by B. R. Ambedkar on 20 March 1927** to allow untouchables to use water in a public tank in Mahad (currently in Raigad district), Maharashtra, India. The day (20 March) is observed as Social Empowerment day in India.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/25/bhima-koregaon-battle/>



173. Consider the following statements about Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme:
1. It is a campaign of the Government of India that aims to generate awareness and improve the efficiency of welfare services intended for girls in India.
 2. The scheme was launched with an initial funding of ₹1000 crore.
 3. It is a Central Sector Scheme with 100% financial assistance for District level component.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- S1: it is a campaign of the Government of India that aims to generate awareness and improve the efficiency of welfare services intended for girls in India.
- S2: The scheme was launched with an initial funding of **₹100 crore (US\$14 million)**.
- S3: It is a **Central Sector Scheme** with **100% financial assistance for District level component** and the fund are directly released to the DC/DM's account for smooth operation of the Scheme.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/25/national-girl-child-day/>

174. With reference to 'Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana' (PM-JAY), consider the following statements:

1. PM-JAY is the world's largest health insurance/ assurance scheme fully financed by the government.
2. It provides a cover of Rs. 15 lakhs per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization across public and private empanelled hospitals in India.
3. It covers up to 3 days of pre-hospitalization and 15 days post-hospitalization expenses such as diagnostics and medicines.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **Key Features of PM-JAY**

- PM-JAY is the world's largest health insurance/ assurance scheme fully financed by the government.
- **It provides a cover of Rs. 5 lakhs per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization across public and private empanelled hospitals in India.**
- Over 10.74 crore poor and vulnerable entitled families (approximately 50 crore beneficiaries) are eligible for these benefits.
- PM-JAY provides cashless access to health care services for the beneficiary at the point of service, that is, the hospital.
- PM-JAY envisions to help mitigate catastrophic expenditure on medical treatment which pushes nearly 6 crore Indians into poverty each year.
- **It covers up to 3 days of pre-hospitalization and 15 days post-hospitalization expenses such as diagnostics and medicines.**
- There is no restriction on the family size, age or gender.



- All pre-existing conditions are covered from day one.
- Benefits of the scheme are portable across the country i.e. a beneficiary can visit any empanelled public or private hospital in India to avail cashless treatment.
- Services include approximately 1,393 procedures covering all the costs related to treatment, including but not limited to drugs, supplies, diagnostic services, physician's fees, room charges, surgeon charges, OT and ICU charges etc.
- Public hospitals are reimbursed for the healthcare services at par with the private hospitals.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/25/ayushman-bharat-health-scheme-for-central-armed-police-forces/>

175. Consider the following statements regarding Sundarbans.

1. The Sundarbans mangrove forest, one of the largest such forests lies on the delta of the Ganges, Brahmaputra and Meghna rivers on the Bay of Bengal.
2. According to the census conducted for the year 2019-20, the number of Royal Bengal Tigers in the Sundarbans has increased.
3. The entire Sundarbans mangrove forest is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- S1: The Sundarbans is a mangrove area in the delta formed by the confluence of the Ganges, Brahmaputra and Meghna Rivers in the Bay of Bengal.
- S2: The number of Royal Bengal Tigers in West Bengal's Sundarbans has risen to 96, up by eight, according to the latest census.
- S3: Four protected areas in the Sundarbans are enlisted as UNESCO World Heritage Sites, viz Sundarbans National Park, Sundarbans West, Sundarbans South and Sundarbans East Wildlife Sanctuaries.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/25/birds-of-the-sundarban-biosphere-reserve-a-publication-by-zsi/>

176. Consider the following statements about the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI):

1. It was established in 2006 as a premier organisation in zoological research and studies.
2. The activities of the ZSI are coordinated by the Conservation and Survey Division in the Ministry of Environment and Forests, 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: (b)

Explanation: About ZSI:

- **Established in 1961, it is a premier organisation in zoological research and studies.** It was established to promote the survey, exploration and research of the fauna in the region.
- **The activities of the ZSI are coordinated by the Conservation and Survey Division in the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India.**



- Main objectives:
 - Exploration and Survey of Faunal Resources
 - Taxonomic Studies
 - Status Survey of Endangered Species
 - Publication of Results through Departmental Journals
 - Publication of Fauna of India
 - Maintenance and Development of National Zoological Collections
- Red Data Book:
 - Similar to the Red Data Book produced by IUCN, ZSI also releases a Red Data Book on Indian Animals. It was first published in 1983.
 - The ZSI also participates in the Indian Antarctic Program, since its inception in 1989.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/25/birds-of-the-sundarban-biosphere-reserve-a-publication-by-zsi/>

177. Consider the following statements:

1. Under Ramsar Convention, it is mandatory on the part of the Government of India to protect and conserve all the wetlands in the territory of India.
2. The Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2010 were framed by the Government of India based on the recommendations of Ramsar Convention.
3. The Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2010 also encompass the drainage area or catchment regions of the wetlands as determined by the authority.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- S1: There is no such binding provision. Contracting Parties to the Ramsar convention make a commitment to:
 - designate at least one site that meets the Ramsar criteria for inclusion in the List of Wetlands of International Importance
 - promote the conservation and wise use of wetlands
 - include wetland conservation within their national land-use planning
 - establish nature reserves on wetlands and promote wetland training, and
 - consult with other Contracting Parties about the implementation of the Ramsar Convention.
- S3: As per the definitions stated under the rules, “wetland” means an area or of marsh, fen, peatland or water.....includes all inland waters such as lakes, reservoir, tanks, backwaters, lagoon, creeks, estuaries and manmade wetland and the zone of direct influence on wetlands that is to say **the drainage area or catchment region of the wetlands as determined by the authority** but does not include main river channels, paddy fields and the coastal wetland.
- S2: not based on the recommendations of Ramsar Convention.
 - The Ministry of Environment and Forests today notified the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2010. These Rules have been drafted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests to ensure better conservation and management and to prevent degradation of existing wetlands in India. <https://www.indiawaterportal.org/articles/wetlands-conservation-and-management-rules-2010-notified-moef>



Source: UPSC CSE 2019

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/25/birds-of-the-sundarban-biosphere-reserve-a-publication-by-zsi/>

178. With reference to Sundarbans, Consider the following statements:

1. The Five protected areas in the Sundarbans are enlisted as UNESCO World Heritage Sites.
 2. It is the largest single block of tidal halophytic mangrove forest in the world.
- 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 Sunderbans:**

- The Sundarbans is a natural region in West Bengal and Bangladesh. **It is the largest single block of tidal halophytic mangrove forest in the world.**
- The Sundarbans covers approximately 10,000 square kilometres (3,900 sq mi) of which 60% is in Bangladesh with the remainder in India. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- **Four protected areas in the Sundarbans are enlisted as UNESCO World Heritage Sites**, viz. Sundarbans National Park, Sundarbans West, Sundarbans South and Sundarbans East Wildlife Sanctuaries.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/25/birds-of-the-sundarban-biosphere-reserve-a-publication-by-zsi/>

179. Consider the following statements:

1. Bodos are the single largest tribal community in Nagaland.
2. BTAD (Bodoland Territorial Autonomous District) is currently spread over four districts.

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:

- Assam is celebrating the first anniversary of the historic Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR) agreement.
- **The BTAD district is currently spread over four districts** of Kokrajhar, Chirang, Baksa and Udalguri.
- **Overview of the agreement signed:**
 - As per the agreement, villages dominated by Bodos that were presently outside the BTAD would be included and those with non-Bodo population would be excluded.
 - The memorandum of settlement says that the criminal cases registered against members of the NDFB factions for “non-heinous” crimes shall be withdrawn by the Assam government and in cases of heinous crimes it will be reviewed.
 - The families of those killed during the Bodo movement would get Rs. 5 lakh each.



- A Special Development Package of Rs. 1500 Crore would be given by the Centre to undertake specific projects for the development of Bodo areas.
 - A committee will decide the exclusion and inclusion of new areas in the BTAD.
- Subsequent to this alteration, the total number of Assembly seats will go up to 60, from the existing 40.



- **Who are Bodos?**

- Bodos are the single largest tribal community in Assam, making up over 5-6 per cent of the state's population. They have controlled large parts of Assam in the past.
- The four districts in Assam — Kokrajhar, Baksa, Udalguri and Chirang — that constitute the Bodo Territorial Area District (BTAD), are home to several ethnic groups.

- **The Bodoland dispute:**

- In 1966-67, the demand for a separate state called Bodoland was raised under the banner of the Plains Tribals Council of Assam (PTCA), a political outfit.
- In 1987, the All Bodo Students Union (ABSU) renewed the demand. "Divide Assam fifty-fifty", was a call given by the ABSU's then leader, Upendra Nath Brahma.
- The unrest was a fallout of the Assam Movement (1979-85), whose culmination — the Assam Accord — addressed the demands of protection and safeguards for the "Assamese people", leading the Bodos to launch a movement to protect their own identity.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/25/bodoland-territorial-region-btr-agreement/>

180. With reference to Election Commission of India, consider the following statements:

1. ECI is a permanent and an independent body.
2. The commission was established in 1950 and originally only had a Chief Election Commissioner.
3. The election commission is not concerned with the elections to panchayats and municipalities in the states.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- S1: The **Election Commission** is a **permanent and an independent** body established by the Constitution of India directly to ensure free and fair elections in the country.
- S2: The commission was **established in 1950 and originally only had a Chief Election Commissioner**. Two additional Commissioners were appointed to the commission for the first time on 16 October 1989 (on the eve of the 1989 General Election), but they had a very short tenure, ending on 1 January 1990.



"The Election Commissioner Amendment Act, 1989" was adopted on 1 January 1990 which turned the commission into a multi-member body: a 3-member Commission has been in operation since then and the decisions by the commission are made by a majority vote.

- S3: It must be noted here that the **election commission is not concerned with the elections to panchayats and municipalities in the states**. For this, the Constitution of India provides for a separate State Election Commission
- **National Voters' Day (NVD):**
 - 11th National Voters' Day (NVD) to be celebrated on 25th January 2021.
 - Theme for this year's NVD is 'Making Our Voters Empowered, Vigilant, Safe and Informed'.
 - The National Voters' Day has been celebrated on January 25 every year since 2011, all across the country to mark the foundation day of Election Commission of India, i.e. 25th January 1950.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/25/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-25-january-2021/>

RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 27th-Jan-2021

181. Consider the following statements about Govind Ballabh Pant:

1. Following Gandhi's footsteps, Pant organised a massive salt movement in the United Provinces.
2. He led the protest against the Simon Commission.
3. He was the first chief minister of Uttar Pradesh in Independent India.

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: **About Govind Ballabh Pant:**

- Pant was born on 10 September 1887 in what is now Uttarakhand, at Almora.
- In Kashipur, he established an organisation called Prem Sabha that started working towards several reforms.
- He also saved a school from shutting down due to non-payment of taxes to the British government.
- He was the first chief minister of Uttar Pradesh in Independent India.
- He served as India's home minister from 1955 to 1961. It was during his tenure that states were reorganised on linguistic lines.
- Following Gandhi's footsteps, Pant also organised a massive salt movement in the United Provinces. In May 1930, he was arrested and held at Dehradun jail.
- He also protested against the Simon Commission.
- In 1957, Pant was awarded India's highest civilian award, the Bharat Ratna.
- **The protest against simon commission was led by the Indian nationalist Lala Lajpat Rai, who had moved a resolution against the Commission in the Legislative Assembly of Punjab in February 1928.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/27/govind-ballabh-pant-2/>



182. The term “Two state Solution” is sometimes mentioned in the new in the context of the affairs of

- (a) China
- (b) Israel
- (c) Iraq
- (d) Yemen

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **Israel-Palestine Conflict:**

- The Israeli-Palestinian conflict dates back to the end of the nineteenth century, primarily as a conflict over territory.
- After the 1948 Arab-Israeli war, the Holy Land was divided into three parts: The State of Israel, the West Bank (of the Jordan River), and the Gaza Strip.
- **The 1993 Oslo Accords mediated the conflict, to set up a framework for two state solution.** It recognized the Palestinian Authority tasked with limited self-governance of parts of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/27/u-s-announces-restoration-of-relations-with-palestinians/>

183. Arrange the following locations in the direction of West to East:

1. Golan Heights
2. Gaza
3. West Bank
4. Amman

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/27/u-s-announces-restoration-of-relations-with-palestinians/>

184. Consider the following statements about the North Atlantic Treaty Organization:

1. It is an intergovernmental military alliance between 30 European and North American countries.
2. 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.



3. The most recent member state to be added to NATO was Belgium.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **North Atlantic Treaty Organization** 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 **Evere, Brussels, Belgium**, while the headquarters of **Allied Command Operations is near Mons, Belgium**.
- The most recent member state to be added to NATO was **North Macedonia** on 27 March 2020.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/27/u-s-taliban-peace-deal/>

185. Which of the following developments may not likely reduce the fiscal deficit?

1. Increasing Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)
2. Providing budgetary support to public sector enterprises
3. Waiving off farm loans.
4. Austerity measures should be adopted.

Select the correct answer code:

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Fiscal deficit (FD) is the difference between revenue receipts plus non-debt capital receipts on the one side and total expenditure including loans, net of repayments, on the other. It measures the gap between the government consumption expenditure including loan repayments and the anticipated income from tax and non-tax revenues.
- It also indicates the borrowing requirements of the government from all sources. The bigger the gap the more the government will have to borrow or resort to printing money to make both ends meet. Indiscriminate borrowings will push the economy into debt trap, while too much deficit financing may be inflationary.
- Increasing Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) tend to bring more revenue to the government there by reducing FD.
- **Austerity measures are reductions in government spending, increases in tax revenues, or both which can reduce FD.**
- **Providing budgetary support to public sector enterprises and Waiving off farm loans increase government expenditure thus increasing FD.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/27/off-budget-borrowing/>



186. Consider the following statements:

1. In India, Extra budgetary resources (EBRs) are not part of the official budget calculations.
2. Extra budget borrowing is excluded from the fiscal deficit calculations.
3. Extra budget borrowing is added to the total debt of the government.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- According to the budget document, “Extra budgetary resources (EBRs) are those financial liabilities that are raised by Public Sector Undertakings for which repayment of entire principal and interest is done from Government budget,”
- Such borrowings are made by state-owned firms to fund government schemes but are not part of the official budget calculations.
- Extra budget borrowing is excluded from the fiscal deficit calculations, but at the same time, are added to the total debt of the government.
- In recent years, several CPSUs have raised resources from the market by issuing Government of India-Fully Serviced Bonds (GoIFSB) for which the repayment of both principal and interest is to be done from the Budget.
- This means that though the borrowing is not a part of the consolidated fund of India, the interest payment for such borrowings are made out of the consolidated fund.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/27/off-budget-borrowing/>

187. Consider the following statements about Padma Awards:

1. The Padma Awards are one of the highest civilian honours of India announced annually on the eve of Republic Day.
2. The Awards are conferred on the recommendations made by the Padma Awards Committee, which is constituted by the President of India every 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:

- **About Padma Awards:**
 - The Padma Awards are one of the highest civilian honours of India announced annually on the eve of Republic Day.
 - The award seeks to recognize achievements in all fields of activities or disciplines where an element of public service is involved.
 - **The Awards are conferred on the recommendations made by the Padma Awards Committee, which is constituted by the Prime Minister every year.**
- The Awards are given in three categories:
 - Padma Vibhushan (for exceptional and distinguished service).
 - Padma Bhushan (distinguished service of higher order).
 - Padma Shri (distinguished service).



Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/27/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-27-january-2021/>

188. Consider the following statements:

1. Bharat Parv is a mega event organized every year since 1950, to coincide with the Republic Day Celebrations.
2. Bharat Parv 2021 will be organized by the Ministry of Tourism.

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:

- **Bharat Parv 2021:**
- It is a mega event organized every year to coincide with the Republic Day Celebrations.
- **It was started in the year 2016.**
- The event envisages generating patriotic fervor and showcases the rich and varied cultural diversity of the country.
- Bharat Parv 2021 will be organized by **the Ministry of Tourism.**

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/27/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-27-january-2021/>

189. Consider the following statements about Competition Commission of India (CCI):

1. It is a statutory body of the Government of India.
2. It was established on 14 October 2003.
3. The Commission comprises a Chairperson and not less than 2 and not more than 6 other members appointed by the Central Government.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- S3: The Commission comprises a Chairperson and not less than 2 and not more than 6 other members appointed by the Central Government.
- S1 & 2: It 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.
- It was established on 14 October 2003. It became fully functional in May 2009 with Dhanendra Kumar as its first Chairman.
- **What is non-price competition?**
 - Non-price competition refers to competition between companies that focuses on benefits, extra services, good workmanship, product quality – plus all other features and measures that do not involve altering prices.
 - It contrasts with price competition, in which rivals try to gain market share by reducing their prices.



- Non-price competition is often adopted by the competing players in a sector in order to prevent a price war, which can lead to a damaging spiral of price cuts.
- **Context:**
 - Data privacy can take the form of non-price competition and abuse of dominance can lower privacy protection, a study by the Competition Commission of India (CCI) has said.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/27/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-27-january-2021/>

190. Consider the following statements about United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change:

1. It is an international environmental treaty.
2. Its supreme decision-making body, the Conference of the Parties (COP), meets annually to assess progress in dealing with climate change.
3. As of 2020, the UNFCCC has 192 signatory parties.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)** is an **international environmental treaty** addressing climate change, negotiated and signed by 154 states at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), informally known as the Earth Summit, held in Rio de Janeiro from 3 to 14 June 1992.
- **As of 2020, the UNFCCC has 197 signatory parties.** Its supreme decision-making body, the Conference of the Parties (COP), meets annually to assess progress in dealing with climate change.
- **Climate Adaptation Summit 2021:**
 - The climate adaptation summit was hosted by the Netherlands government on January 25, 2021.
 - The summit was held online and it is being called “CAS Online”.
 - The summit was built on the advances of the UN Climate Action Summit.
 - The summit also showcased the pioneering solutions of the climate emergency and sustaining momentum through UNFCCC’s COP26.
 - CAS will help in delivering the action and inspire the change to help the societies build back better.
 - The summit was organized with the aim of realizing the transitions which is required for a climate-resilient world.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/27/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-27-january-2021/>

RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 28th-Jan-2021

191. He wrote biographies of Mazzini, Garibaldi, Shivaji and Shri Krishna; stayed in America for some time; and was also elected to the Central Assembly. He was



- (a) Aurobindo Ghosh
- (b) Bipin Chandra Pal
- (c) Lala Lajpat Rai
- (d) Motilal Nehru

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Lajpat Rai adopted Mazzini as his own guru after reading Surendranath's Speeches. In 1896, he wrote a series of books in Urdu, which he named the 'Great Men of the World'. The first great man he chose was his Italian guru Giuseppe Mazzini, and then Garibaldi, along with Sivaji, Dayananda and Sri Krishna.
- His purpose in selecting Mazzini and Garibaldi was to infuse patriotic sentiment in the youth of Punjab, who had no access to books in English.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/28/lala-lajpat-rai-3/>

192. Consider the following statements about Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana:

1. It is a small deposit scheme of the Government of India meant exclusively for a girl child.
2. It is launched as a part of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Campaign.
3. A Sukanya Samriddhi Account can be opened any time after the birth of a girl till she turns 10 with a minimum deposit of Rs 1,000.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation: **About Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana:**

- It is a **small deposit scheme** for the girl child launched as a part of the '**Beti Bachao Beti Padhao**' campaign.
- A Sukanya Samriddhi **Account can be opened any time after the birth of a girl till she turns 10**, with a minimum deposit of Rs 250 (Earlier it was Rs 1,000). In subsequent years, a minimum of Rs 250 and a maximum of Rs 1.5 lakh can be deposited during the ongoing financial year.
- The account can be opened in any post office or authorised branches of commercial banks.
- The **account will remain operative for 21 years from the date of its opening or till the marriage of the girl after she turns 18.**
- To meet the requirement of her higher education expenses, **partial withdrawal of 50% of the balance is allowed after she turns 18.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/28/village-celebrates-its-newborn-daughters/>

193. Consider the following statements with reference to DNA Technology (Use and Application) Regulation Bill, 2019:

1. Under the Bill, DNA testing is allowed only in respect of matters listed in the Schedule to the Bill.
2. The Bill provides for the establishment of a National DNA Data Bank and Regional DNA Data Banks, for every state, or two or more states.
3. The Bill provides for the establishment of a DNA Regulatory Board, which will supervise the DNA Data Banks and DNA laboratories.



Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **Highlights of the Bill:**

- As per the Bill, **national and regional DNA data banks** will be set up for maintaining a national database for identification of victims, suspects in cases, undertrials, missing persons and unidentified human remains.
- **Punishment:** Those leaking the DNA profile information to people or entities who are not entitled to have it, will be punished with a jail term of up to three years and a fine of up to Rs. 1 lakh.
- **Usage:** As per the bill, all DNA data, including DNA profiles, DNA samples and records, will only be used for identification of the person and not for “any other purpose”.
- The bill’s provisions will enable the **cross-matching between persons** who have been reported missing on the one hand and unidentified dead bodies found in various parts of the country on the other, and also for establishing the identity of victims in mass disasters.
- The Bill establishes a **DNA Regulatory Board** to accredit the DNA laboratories that analyse DNA samples to establish the identity of an individual.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/28/dna-technology-use-and-application-regulation-bill-2019/>

194. The ‘New START’ treaty is sometimes mentioned in media in the context of:

- (a) India-EU negotiations on FTA
- (b) United States and the Russian Federation affairs
- (c) UNFCCC affairs
- (d) WTO affairs

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **About the New START treaty:**

- The New START (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty), was signed in 2010 by former US President Barack Obama and his Russian counterpart at the time, Dmitry Medvedev.
- The treaty limits each party to 700 deployed intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) or deployed submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs), 1,550 nuclear warheads on deployed ICBMs and SLBMs, and 800 deployed and non-deployed ICBM launchers.
- It also envisions a rigorous inspection regime to verify compliance.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/28/russia-gives-nod-to-extend-start-treaty/>

195. Consider the following statements about International Energy Agency (IEA):

1. International Energy Agency (IEA) was established during the oil crisis of 1973.
2. It is an intergovernmental autonomous organisation based in Geneva.
3. India became an associate member of IEA in 2017.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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



(d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- Stat1 and 2: International Energy Agency (IEA) was established during the oil crisis of **1973**. It is an **intergovernmental autonomous** organisation **based in Paris**. IEA has a major role to play in providing information related to the international oil market and taking action against any physical disruptions in the supply of oil.
- Stat3: Source: **India became an associate member of IEA in March 2017** but it was in engagement with IEA long before its association with the organization. India was a party to the Declaration of Cooperation, signed in 1998 which covered the matters relating to energy security and statistics

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/28/international-energy-agency-iaea-2/>

196. Consider the following statements regarding the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve:

1. The Nilgiri Sub-Cluster is a part of the Western Ghats, which was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 2012.
2. It is the largest protected forest area in India, spreading across five states.
3. It includes the Aralam, Mudumalai, Mukurthi, Nagarhole, Bandipur and Silent Valley national parks.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve is an International Biosphere Reserve in the Western Ghats and Nilgiri Hills ranges of South India. The Nilgiri Sub-Cluster is a part of the Western Ghats, which was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 2012.
- It is the largest protected forest area in India, spreading across Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala.
- It includes the Aralam, Mudumalai, Mukurthi, Nagarhole, Bandipur and Silent Valley national parks, as well as the Wayanad, Karimpuzha, and Sathyamangalam wildlife sanctuaries.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/28/conservationist-joins-panel-on-elephant-corridor-case/>

197. Arrange the following National parks in the direction of North to South:

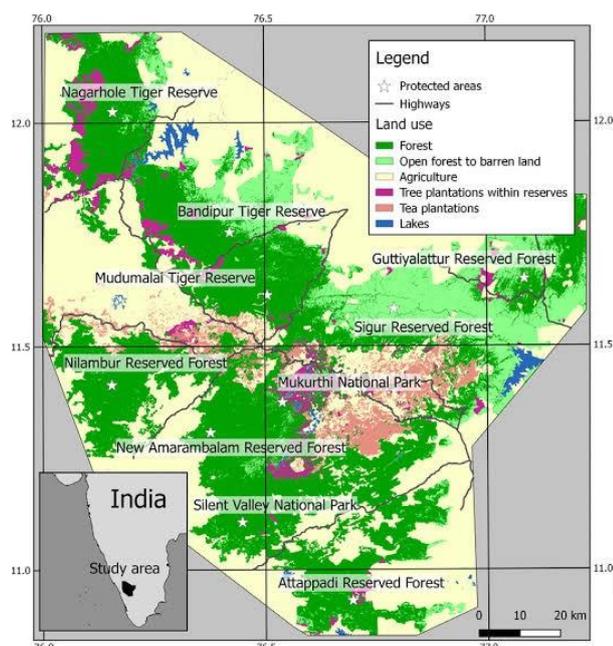
1. Nagarhole National Park
2. Silent Valley National Park
3. Mukurthi National Park

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/28/conservationist-joins-panel-on-elephant-corridor-case/>

198. With reference to Indian Elephants, consider the following statements :

1. The leader of an elephant group is a female.
2. The maximum gestation period can be 22 months.
3. An elephant can normally go on calving till the age of 40 years only.
4. Among the States in India, the highest population is in Kerala.

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

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

Ans: (b)

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

- S1: The leader of a group is the oldest female. She guides the herd in their search of food and water sources. These matriarchal units can occasionally divide into smaller, temporary groups.
- S2: A breeding pair remains together for about 3 weeks. Gestation period lasts for 22 months, yielding a single baby. During the birth, females of the herd surround the mother in order to protect her.
- S3: Adulthood starts at about 18 years of age, and the elephant has an average life expectancy of 70 years. Although sexually mature in their early teens, elephants generally only start to mate at about 20 years and stop bearing calves at about 50
- S4: South India had the highest number of wild elephants – 14,612. Among the south Indian states, Karnataka leads the table with 6,049 elephants followed by Kerala.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/28/conservationist-joins-panel-on-elephant-corridor-case/>



199. Consider the following statements about the Official Secrets Act:

1. It was enacted during the time of Lord Dufferin.
2. One of the main purposes of the Act was to muzzle the voice of nationalist publications.

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 the Official Secrets Act:**

- Originally enacted during the time of **Lord Curzon**, Viceroy of India from 1899 to 1905.
- One of the main purposes of the Act was to muzzle the voice of nationalist publications.
- The Act replaced the earlier Act, and was extended to all matters of secrecy and confidentiality in governance in the country.
- It broadly deals with two aspects:
 - Spying or espionage, covered under Section 3.
 - Disclosure of other secret information of the government, under Section 5.
- **Is “secret information” defined?**
 - The Act does not say what a “secret” document is. It is the government’s discretion to decide what falls under the ambit of a “secret” document.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/28/official-secrets-act-2/>

200. Consider the following:

1. Areca nut
2. Barley
3. Coffee
4. Finger millet
5. Groundnut
6. Sesamum
7. Turmeric

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has announced the Minimum Support Price for which of the above?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Minimum Support Price of Copra:**
- Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has given its approval for the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of copra for 2021 season.
 - The approval is based on recommendations of **the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)**.
 - The increase in MSP for copra for 2021 season is in line with the principle of **fixing the MSP at a level of at least 1.5 times the all India weighted average**



cost of production which was announced by the Government in the Budget 2018-19.

- Government announces minimum support prices (MSPs) for 22 mandated crops and fair and remunerative price (FRP) for sugarcane. The mandated crops are 14 crops of the kharif season, 6 rabi crops and two other commercial crops. In addition, the MSPs of toria and de-husked coconut are fixed on the basis of the MSPs of rapeseed/mustard and copra, respectively. The list of crops are as follows.
 - Cereals (7) - paddy, wheat, barley, jowar, bajra, maize and ragi
 - Pulses (5) - gram, arhar/tur, moong, urad and lentil
 - Oilseeds (8) - groundnut, rapeseed/mustard, toria, soyabean, sunflower seed, sesamum, safflower seed and nigerseed
 - Raw cotton
 - Raw jute
 - Copra
 - De-husked coconut
 - Sugarcane (Fair and remunerative price)
 - Virginia flu cured (VFC) tobacco

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/28/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-27-january-2021-2/>



RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 29th-Jan-2021

201. Consider the following statements with reference to the Motion of Thanks.

1. It is addressed by the President of India.
2. The motion is put to vote only in Lok Sabha.
3. It is addressed at the beginning of every new session of the Parliament.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Ans: (d)

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

- **The first session after each general election and the first session of every fiscal year is addressed by the president.** In this address, the president outlines the policies and programmes of the government in the preceding year and ensuing year. This address of the president is called the 'Motion of Thanks'. At the end of the discussion, the motion is put to vote.
- This motion must be passed in both the House. Otherwise, it amounts to the defeat of the government.
- This inaugural speech of the president is an occasion available to the members of Parliament to raise discussions and debates to examine and criticise the government and administration for its lapses and failures.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/29/presidents-address/>

202. With reference to the Legislative Assembly of a State in India, consider the following statements:

1. The Governor makes a customary address to Members of the House at the commencement of the first session of the year.
2. When a State Legislature does not have a rule on a particular matter, it follows the Lok Sabha rule on that matter.

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: Article 176(1) of the Constitution of India enjoins that the Governor shall Address both the Houses assembled together at the commencement of the first Session after each general election to the Assembly and at the commencement of the first session of each year and inform the Legislature of the causes of its Summons. See <https://aplegislature.org/web/aplegislature/governors-address>
- S2: When a State Legislature does not have a rule on a particular matter, it follows the Lok Sabha rule on that matter.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/29/presidents-address/>

203. Consider the following statements:

1. The State Election Commission is a Constitutional Authority.



2. The powers and functions of the State Election Commission are identical to those vested in the Election Commission of India.
3. State Election Commissioner cannot be removed by the Governor, though appointed by him.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- State election commissioner is appointed by The Governor.
- The powers and functions of the State Election Commission under article 243K AND 243ZA of the Constitution Of India are identical to those vested in the Election Commission Of India constituted under article 324 of the Constitution Of India in their respective domains.
- His conditions of service and tenure of office shall also be determined by the governor.
- He shall not be removed from the office except in the manner and on the grounds prescribed for the removal of the judge of the state high court.
- A judge of a high court can be removed from his office by the president on the recommendation of the parliament. This means that a state election commissioner cannot be removed by the governor, though appointed by him.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/29/sec-censures-two-ias-officers-a-p-govt-objects/>

204. Galwan Valley is situated to the:

- (a) West of Leh
- (b) East of Aksai Chin
- (c) West of Gilgit
- (d) South of Depsang Plains

Ans: (d)

Explanation: The strategic importance of Galwan River Valley (GRV):

- The Galwan river is the highest ridgeline and it allows the Chinese to dominate the Shyok route passes, which is close to the river.
- It lies along the western sector of the LAC and close to Aksai Chin, a disputed area claimed by India but controlled by China.



Refer:

<https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/29/jaishankar-suggests-way-forward-for-china-ties/>

205. Consider the following statements about World Gold Council:

1. It works across all parts of the industry, from gold mining to investment.
2. WGC members comprise the world's leading gold mining companies.
3. It is headquartered in New Delhi, India.



Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **About World Gold Council:**

- It is the market development organisation for the gold industry.
- It works across all parts of the industry, from gold mining to investment, and their aim is to stimulate and sustain demand for gold.
- It is an association whose members comprise the world's leading gold mining companies.
- It helps to support its members to mine in a responsible way and developed the Conflict Free Gold Standard.
- Headquartered in the UK, they have offices in India, China, Singapore, Japan and the United States.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/29/jaishankar-suggests-way-forward-for-china-ties/>

206. Which of these is the first gold mine of India?

- (a) West Singhbhum
- (b) Sonbhadra Mine
- (c) Kolar Gold Field
- (d) Hatti Gold Mines

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Kolar Gold Field is the first gold mine in India.
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kolar_Gold_Fields

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/29/jaishankar-suggests-way-forward-for-china-ties/>

207. The 'Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action' (JCPOA) was in news recently, is commonly referred as:

- (a) USA Nuclear Deal
- (b) Iran Nuclear Deal
- (c) Iraq Nuclear Deal
- (d) India Nuclear Deal

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **About the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, or JCPOA:**

- Iran agreed to rein in its nuclear programme in a 2015 deal struck with the US, UK, Russia, China, France and Germany.
- The 2015 nuclear deal gave Iran relief from sanctions in return for curbs on its nuclear programme.
- Under the deal:
 - Iran agreed to rein in its nuclear programme in a 2015 deal struck with the US, UK, Russia, China, France and Germany.
 - Tehran agreed to significantly cut its stores of centrifuges, enriched uranium and heavy-water, all key components for nuclear weapons.
 - The Joint Commission was established, with the negotiating parties all represented, to monitor implementation of the agreement.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/29/joint-comprehensive-plan-of-action-jcpoa-or-the-iran-deal/>

208. Consider the following statements:

1. World Health Organization is a specialized agency of the United Nations responsible for international public health.
2. WHO is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.
3. India became a party to the WHO Constitution on 12 January 1948.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The World Health Organization (WHO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations responsible for international public health.
- The WHO Constitution, which establishes the agency's governing structure and principles, states its main objective as "the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health."
- It is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, with six semi-autonomous regional offices and 150 field offices worldwide.
- India became a party to the WHO Constitution on 12 January 1948.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/29/a-global-challenge-to-deliver-vaccine-says-who-executive-board/>

209. Kala Utsav is an initiative of the:

- (a) Ministry of Education
- (b) Ministry of Tourism
- (c) Ministry of Culture
- (d) Ministry of Home Affairs

Ans: (a)

Explanation: Kala Utsav:

- Kala Utsav is an initiative of the **Ministry of Human Resource Development (now called Ministry of Education)** under Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, to promote arts in education by nurturing and showcasing the artistic talent of school students at the secondary stage in the country.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/29/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-29-january-2021/>

210. Which of the following is not included in the assets of a commercial bank in India?

- (a) Advances
- (b) Deposits
- (c) Investments
- (d) Money at call and short notice

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Deposits are a liability on a commercial bank, since it must return its lenders the amount it owes them. Answer is B.
- Loans and Advances form assets of the bank. Also, Investments form the second largest component in the assets side of banks' balance sheets after loans and



advances as per a recent RBI report, see

<https://rbi.org.in/scripts/PublicationsView.aspx?Id=18743> (sec 2.4)

- So, the assets of the commercial bank in India are Cash in hand, Investments, Loans, Advances, Bills discounted and purchased, while the liabilities are Capital and Reserves, Deposits, Borrowings, and other liabilities.

Refer: UPSC 2019

RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 30th-Jan-2021

211. Consider the following statements with reference to Patharughat uprising:

1. The enforcement of forced and fraudulent contracts by the Zamindars was one of the main reasons for this revolt
2. One fallout of the revolt was that cultivation of indigo was virtually wiped out from the districts of Assam by the end of 1860.

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:

- **Patharughat peasant uprising** took place on January 28, 1894 in Assam.
 - The unarmed peasants were protesting against the increase in land revenue **levied by the colonial administration**, when the military opened fire.
- **What led to the Patharughat uprising?**
 - After the British annexation of Assam in 1826, surveys of the vast lands of the state began. On the basis of such surveys, the British began to impose land taxes, much to the resentment of the farmers.
 - In 1893, the British government decided to increase agricultural land tax reportedly by 70- 80 per cent. Up until then the peasants would pay taxes in kind or provide a service in lieu of cash.
 - In Patharughat, despite these gatherings being democratic, the British perceived them as “breeding grounds for sedition” and opened fire.
- **Why was the incident significant?**
 - For the larger Assamese community, Patharughat comes second only to **the Battle of Saraighat**, when the Ahoms defeated the Mughals in 1671.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/30/patharughat-the-forgotten-peasant-uprising-of-assam-in-1894/>

212. World Health Organization (WHO) recognises which of the following as the neglected tropical disease (NTD).

1. Chikungunya
2. Soil-transmitted helminthiases
3. Lymphatic filariasis
4. Leprosy
5. Snakebite

Select the correct answer code:

- (a) 1, 2 and 3



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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Neglected tropical diseases (NTDs)– a diverse group of communicable diseases that prevail in tropical and subtropical conditions in 149 countries – affect more than one billion people and cost developing economies billions of dollars every year. Populations living in poverty, without adequate sanitation and in close contact with infectious vectors and domestic animals and livestock are those worst affected. These include:
 - Buruli ulcer
 - Chagas disease
 - **Dengue and Chikungunya**
 - Dracunculiasis (guinea-worm disease)
 - Echinococcosis
 - Foodborne trematodiasis
 - Human African trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness)
 - Leishmaniasis
 - Leprosy (Hansen’s disease)
 - Lymphatic filariasis
 - Mycetoma, chromoblastomycosis and other deep mycoses
 - Onchocerciasis (river blindness)
 - Rabies
 - Scabies and other ectoparasites
 - Schistosomiasis
 - **Soil-transmitted helminthiasis**
 - **Snakebite envenoming**
 - Taeniasis/Cysticercosis
 - Trachoma
 - Yaws (Endemic treponematoses)

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/30/neglected-tropical-diseases-ntds/>

213. With reference to ‘Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana’ (PM-JAY), consider the following statements:

1. PM-JAY is the world’s largest health insurance/ assurance scheme fully financed by the government.
2. It provides a cover of Rs. 15 lakhs per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization across public and private empanelled hospitals in India.
3. It covers up to 10 days of pre-hospitalization and 15 days post-hospitalization expenses such as diagnostics and medicines.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **Key Features of PM-JAY**

- PM-JAY is the world’s largest health insurance/ assurance scheme fully financed by the government.
- **It provides a cover of Rs. 5 lakhs per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization across public and private empanelled hospitals in India.**
- Over 10.74 crore poor and vulnerable entitled families (approximately 50 crore beneficiaries) are eligible for these benefits.
- PM-JAY provides cashless access to health care services for the beneficiary at the point of service, that is, the hospital.



- PM-JAY envisions to help mitigate catastrophic expenditure on medical treatment which pushes nearly 6 crore Indians into poverty each year.
- **It covers up to 3 days of pre-hospitalization and 15 days post-hospitalization expenses such as diagnostics and medicines.**
- There is no restriction on the family size, age or gender.
- All pre-existing conditions are covered from day one.
- Benefits of the scheme are portable across the country i.e. a beneficiary can visit any empanelled public or private hospital in India to avail cashless treatment.
- Services include approximately 1,393 procedures covering all the costs related to treatment, including but not limited to drugs, supplies, diagnostic services, physician's fees, room charges, surgeon charges, OT and ICU charges etc.
- Public hospitals are reimbursed for the healthcare services at par with the private hospitals.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/30/pm-jay/>

214. Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of the Ecosystem Services (NCAVES) India Forum-2021 is being organised by the:

- Reserve Bank of India
- Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
- NITI Aayog
- Securities and Exchange Board of India

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Organised by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).
- **What is it?**
 - Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of the Ecosystem Services (NCAVES) India Forum-2021 is a part of **NCAVES project of United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD)**.
 - It aims to help five countries for addressing the concerns of sustainability and conserving the environment for future use while charting the course for economic development.
 - India is one of the five countries taking part in this project – the other countries being Brazil, China, South Africa and Mexico.
- **NCAVES project:**
 - The project seeks to advance the theory and practice of environmental and ecosystem accounting in Brazil, China, India, Mexico and South Africa.
 - The project has been jointly implemented by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Secretariat of the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD).
 - It aims to assist the five participating partner countries, to advance the knowledge agenda on environmental-economic accounting, in particular ecosystem accounting.
 - The project will have a duration until the end of 2021.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/30/ncaves-india-forum-2021-2/>

215. Consider the following statements:

- In India, the registration of Geographical Indication (GI) is valid for a period of 20 years.
- In India, Geographical Indication (GI) registration is administered by the Trade Marks Act, 1999.

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 GI tag:**
 - A GI is primarily an agricultural, natural or a manufactured product (handicrafts and industrial goods) originating from a definite geographical territory.
 - Typically, such a name conveys an assurance of quality and distinctiveness, which is essentially attributable to the place of its origin.
- **Security:**
 - Once the GI protection is granted, no other producer can misuse the name to market similar products. It also provides comfort to customers about the authenticity of that product.
- **Who is a registered proprietor of a geographical indication?**
 - Any association of persons, producers, organisation or authority established by or under the law can be a registered proprietor.
 - Their name should be entered in the Register of Geographical Indication as registered proprietor for the Geographical Indication applied for.
- **How long the registration of Geographical Indication is valid?**
 - The registration of a geographical indication is valid for a period of 10 years.
 - It can be renewed from time to time for further period of 10 years each.
 - In India, Geographical Indications registration is administered by **the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999** which came into force with effect from September 2003. The first product in India to be accorded with GI tag was Darjeeling tea in the year 2004-05.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/30/pakistan-gets-geographical-indicator-tag-for-basmati-rice/>

216. The terms 'Ripple, Stellar, Ethereum' sometimes mentioned news recently are related to
- (a) Cyber attacks
 - (b) Mini satellites
 - (c) Exoplanets
 - (d) Crypto currency

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **What are Cryptocurrencies?**
- Cryptocurrencies are digital currencies in which encryption techniques are used to regulate the generation of units of currency and verify the transfer of funds, operating independently of a central bank.
- **Examples:** Bitcoin, Ethereum etc.
- <https://www.investopedia.com/tech/most-important-cryptocurrencies-other-than-bitcoin/>

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/30/cryptocurrency-and-regulation-of-official-digital-currency-bill-2021/>



217. Consider the following statements:

1. Tortoises and turtles are both reptiles
2. Tortoises live some or most of the time in the water, while turtles live on land
3. Tortoises are herbivores while turtles can be both herbivores and carnivores

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

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- National Marine Turtle Action Plan:
 - The Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has released 'Marine Mega Fauna Stranding Guidelines' and 'National Marine Turtle Action Plan'.
 - The documents contain ways and means to promote inter-sectoral action for conservation.
- Stat3: Most land-based **tortoises are herbivores** while **turtles can be both herbivores and carnivores**. [This is a video of a turtle eating a pigeon.](#)
- Stat2: **Turtles live some or most of the time in the water, while tortoises live on land**. Both turtles and tortoises lay eggs on the ground. The mother will dig a burrow and lay two to twelve eggs there. The future hatchlings will stay inside the egg for 90 to 120 days, incubating on their own. Once the incubation process is complete, they dig their way to the surface. Tortoise mothers provide protection to the hatchlings for about 80 days, after which they survive on their own, but turtle hatchlings are on their own from birth.
- Stat1: **Tortoises and turtles are both reptiles from the order of Testudines**, but in different classification families. The major difference between the two is that tortoises dwell on land, while turtles live in the water some or nearly all of the time.

KNOW THE DIFFERENCES ADVENTURE aquarium

Turtle v. Tortoise

328 Number of turtle & tortoise species recognized by the IUCN in 2010.

What the shell?
It's the age-old question: What's the difference between a turtle and a tortoise? It's easy to get confused between these two shelled reptiles. Adventure Aquarium breaks down their differences.

TURTLE

A turtle is a reptile from the Chelonian family. Turtles spend most of their life in the water.

May be herbivorous, carnivorous, or omnivorous. Most are omnivorous or carnivorous.

Carapace is typically more laterally compressed and streamlined.

Most live in the water or are always found near it.

Most have webbed feet.

VS

TORTOISE

A tortoise is a reptile from the Chelonian family. Tortoises spend most of their life on land areas.

Most are primarily herbivorous, but there are a few that are omnivorous.

Carapace is usually more dome-shaped.

Most are primarily terrestrial.

Feet are short and sturdy with bent legs.

A few other tidbits...

Water Lover

Turtles rarely leave the ocean, except when the females come ashore to lay their eggs.

Fun in the sun!

Other turtles live in fresh water. They swim, but they also climb out onto banks, logs, or rocks to bask in the sun.

Land Dweller

Tortoises that live in hot, dry habitats use their strong legs to dig burrows.

Throw me some shade!

When it gets to be too hot in the sun, tortoises prefer to slip underground for shade.

For more info:
For details on Turtles: Journey of Survival, visit Adventure Aquarium online: www.AdventureAquarium.com

JOURNEY OF SURVIVAL

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2021/01/30/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-30-january-2021/>

218. Consider the following statements:

1. Under the Honey Mission, National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) provides training and bee boxes to beekeepers.
2. National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) is a statutory corporation set up under an Act of Indian Parliament on 2003.

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:

- Stat1: Between 2017-18 and 2019-20, KVIC has distributed 129,469 bee boxes across the country and trained 13,066 beekeepers.
- **Under the Honey Mission, KVIC** provides training and 10 bee boxes with live colonies to beneficiaries including farmers, beekeepers and unemployed youth. The mission aims to generate livelihood for the beneficiaries and increase honey production in the country.
- KVIC also runs beekeeping training programmes and courses.
- Stat2: The **National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) is a statutory Corporation set up under an Act of Indian Parliament on 13 March 1963**. The objectives of NCDC are planning and promoting programmes for production, processing, marketing, storage, export and import of agricultural produce, foodstuffs, industrial goods, livestock and certain other notified commodities and services on cooperative principles and for matters concerned therewith or incidental thereto.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/23/beekeeping-in-india/>

219. 'Khudol', sometimes mentioned in the news in reference to:

- (a) Possible vaccine for COVID19
- (b) NGO based in Manipur
- (c) Some crowdfunded initiative
- (d) Some wild invasive species

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Khudol is a crowdfunded initiative of Ya All, an Imphal-based NGO that** had created India's first transgender football team. The initiative entails ensuring food, health and hygiene of the LGBTQI+ community, people living with HIV, daily-wage earners, children and adolescents.
- The United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth has listed Manipur's Khudol (gift) among the top 10 global initiatives for an inclusive fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/23/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-23-may-2020/>

220. Consider the below statements with regard to River Chenab:

1. Chenab is the largest tributary of the Indus.
2. It is formed by two streams, the Chandra and the Bhaga.
3. It runs parallel to the Pir Panjal range.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The **Chenab of Jammu and Kashmir State** is known as the **Chandrabhaga in Himachal Pradesh** because it is formed by two streams, the Chandra and the Bhaga which join at Tandi near Khylong .



- Chandrabhaga flows north-westwards and runs parallel to the Pir Panjal Range for some distance.
- **Near Kishtwar**, it cuts a deep gorge in the **Pir Panjal Range** and turns southwards and flows in this direction for a short distance. Further down, it turns to the west and enters the plain area near Akhnur. The river flows for 1180 km and drains 26,755 sq. km area in India.

Refer: <https://www.britannica.com/place/Chenab-River>



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