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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 1st -June-2020

1. Who among the following can authorize the use of the Hindi language or any other language used for any official purpose of the State?

- (a) President
- (b) Governor
- (c) State Legislature
- (d) Ministry of Home affairs

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Under Article 348 (2)**, the **Governor of the State** may, with the previous consent of the President, **authorize the use of the Hindi language or any other language used for any official purpose of the State**, in the proceedings of the High Court having its principal seat in that State provided that decrees, judgments or orders passed by such High Courts shall be in English.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/01/official-language-in-high-courts/>

2. Consider the following statements:

- 1. In British India, English and Hindi were the sole language used for administrative purposes as well as for higher education purposes.
- 2. The Indian constitution declared Hindi in Devanagari script to be the official language of the union in 1950.

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:

- Stat1: [Source](#): Prior to Independence, in British India, English was the sole language used for administrative purposes as well as for higher education purposes.
- Stat2: The Indian constitution, in 1950, declared Hindi in Devanagari script to be the official language of the union. Unless Parliament decided otherwise, the use of English for official purposes was to cease 15 years after the constitution came into effect, i.e. on 26 January 1965. The prospect of the changeover, however, led to much alarm in the non Hindi-speaking areas of India, especially in South India whose native tongues are not



related to Hindi. As a result, Parliament enacted the Official Languages Act in 1963, which provided for the continued use of English for official purposes along with Hindi, even after 1965.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/01/official-language-in-high-courts/>

3. "Section 2(h) of the RTI Act", sometimes mentioned in the news, is related to:

- (a) Definition of Appropriate Government
- (b) Definition of Competent Authority
- (c) Definition of Right to Information
- (d) None of the above

Ans: (d)

Explanation: Important Section under Right to Information Act- 2005

- Section-1(2): Jurisdiction of RTI Act- 2005
- Section- 2 (a): Definition of "Appropriate Government"
- Section- 2 (c): meaning of "Central Public Information Officer"
- Section- 2 (e): meaning of "Competent Authority"
- Section- 2 (f): meaning of "Information"
- **Section- 2 (h): definition "Public Authority"**
- Section- 2(j): meaning of "Right to Information"
- For more refer: https://te.vikaspedia.in/e-governance/about-rti-act-2005/sectionof_rti.pdf

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/01/pm-cares-fund-not-a-public-authority-under-rti-act/>

4. Consider the following statements:

1. Prime Minister is the ex-officio Chairman of the PM CARES Fund.
2. Minister of Defence, Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India are ex-officio Trustees of the Fund.

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 PM CARES fund:**

- The PM CARES Fund was created on 28 March 2020, "with the primary objective of dealing with any kind of emergency or distress situation, like posed by the COVID-19 pandemic".
- It is a "public charitable trust".

- **Who administers the fund?**

- Prime Minister is the ex-officio Chairman of the PM CARES Fund and Minister of Defence, Minister of Home Affairs and



Minister of Finance, Government of India are ex-officio Trustees of the Fund.

- **Minister of Health and Family Welfare is not ex-officio Trustees of the Fund.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/01/pm-cares-fund-not-a-public-authority-under-rti-act/>

5. Consider the following statements:

1. The responsibility of purchasing Minor Forest Produce (MFP) on Minimum Support Price (MSP) will be with Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED).
2. Section 2(i) of the Forest Rights Act defines a Minor Forest Produce (MFP) as all non-timber non-forest produce of plant origins.

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 responsibility of purchasing MFP on MSP will be with **State designated agencies.**
- Stat2: **Section 2(i) of the Forest Rights Act** defines a Minor Forest Produce (MFP) as **all non-timber forest produce** of plant origin and includes bamboo, brushwood, stumps, canes, cocoon, honey, waxes, Lac, tendu/kendu leaves, medicinal plants etc.
- The definition of “minor forest produce” includes bamboo and cane, thereby changing the categorization of bamboo and cane as “trees” under the Indian Forest Act 1927.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/01/23-additional-mfp-items-included-in-mfp-list/>

6. With reference to National Career Service (NCS), consider the following statements:

1. The project is being implemented by the Directorate General of Employment, MoL&E.
 2. It works towards bridging the gap between jobseekers and employers.
- 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:

- **National Career Service** is a Five Year Mission Mode Project launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 20th July, 2015.



- The project is being implemented by the **Directorate General of Employment, Ministry of Labour & Employment**.
- National Career Service (NCS) is a one-stop solution that provides a wide array of employment and career related services to the citizens of India.
- It works towards bridging the gap between jobseekers and employers, candidates seeking training and career guidance, agencies providing training and career counselling.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/01/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-1-june-2020/>

7. 'INS Kalinga' sometimes mentioned in the news, it is a/an/the:

- (a) War Ship
- (b) Offshore patrol vessels
- (c) Naval station
- (d) Landing ship tanks

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **INS Kalinga is a premier Naval Establishment** located on the Visakhapatnam– Bheemunipatnam beach road under the Eastern Naval Command.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/01/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-1-june-2020/>

8. According to the Hindu Calendar, 'Mahesh Navmi' festival is observed in the month of:

- (a) Chaitra
- (b) Vaisakha
- (c) Jyaistha
- (d) Asadha

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- It is an **auspicious Hindu festival** that is celebrated by the devotees of Lord Shiva– also known as Lord 'Mahesh'.
- The festival is primarily celebrated by people of Maheshwari community, who are usually known for their family business.
- The festival is observed on the ninth day of Shukla Paksha (Waxing moon) in **the month of Jyeshtha** according to the Hindu Calendar.

Traditional Indian Seasons:

- The Indian tradition, a year is divided into six two-monthly seasons. This cycle of seasons, which the common people in north and central India follow is based on their practical experience and age-old perception of weather phenomena.



<i>Seasons</i>	<i>Months (According to the Indian Calendar)</i>	<i>Months (According to the Indian Calendar)</i>
Vasanta	Chaitra-Vaisakha	March-April
Grishma	Jyaistha-Asadha	May-June
Varsha	Sravana-Bhadra	July-August
Sharada	Asvina-Kartika	September-October
Hemanta	Margashirsa-Pausa	November-December
Shishira	Magha-Phalguna	January-February

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/01/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-1-june-2020/>

9. Consider the following statements:

1. Sage Patanjali is the founder of Yoga Philosophy.
2. This school of philosophy believes that the world is unreal and the only reality is Brahman.

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:

- **Yoga philosophy is one of the six major orthodox schools of Hinduism**

- It is closely related to the Samkhya school of Hinduism.
- The Yoga school's systematic studies to better oneself physically, mentally and spiritually has influenced all other schools of Indian philosophy.
- Like the Samkhya School, It relies on three of six Pramanas as the means of gaining reliable knowledge. These include Pratyakṣa (perception), Anumāṇa (inference) and Sabda (Aptavacana, word/testimony of reliable sources).
- The metaphysics of Yoga is built on the same dualist foundation as the Samkhya school.
- The universe is conceptualized as composed of two realities in the Samkhya-Yoga schools: Puruṣa (consciousness) and prakriti (matter). Jiva (a living being) is considered as a state in which puruṣa is bonded to prakriti in some form, in various permutations and combinations of various elements, senses, feelings, activity and mind.
- During the state of imbalance or ignorance, one or more constituents overwhelm the others, creating a form of bondage. The end of this bondage is called liberation, or moksha, by both the Yoga and Samkhya schools of Hinduism.



- **It is Vedanta school is a monoistic school of philosophy that believes that the world is unreal and the only reality is Brahman.**

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/01/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-1-june-2020/>

10. 'Band-tail scorpionfish', a rare fish, which was found recently from:

- Sethukarai
- Kanyakumari
- Pulicat
- Muttukadu

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- Researchers have found a rare fish from **Sethukarai coast** in the **Gulf of Mannar**. This was the first time that the particular species was found alive in Indian waters.
- It is well-known for its stinging venomous spines and ability to change colour.
- The fish is called '**scorpionfish**' because its spines contain neurotoxic venom.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/01/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-1-june-2020/>

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 2st -June-2020

11. With reference to PM SVANidhi (PM Street Vendor's Atma Nirbhar Nidhi) Scheme, consider the following statements:

1. It has been launched by MoH&UA, for providing affordable loans to street vendors.
 2. Under this scheme, the vendors can avail a working capital loan of up to ₹ 1 lakh.
 3. NABARD is the technical partner for implementation of this scheme.
- Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)



Explanation:

- Stat1: The **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** has launched PM Svanidhi, or Pradhan Mantri Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi scheme.
- Stat2: It is a special micro-credit facility plan to provide **affordable loan of up to ₹10,000** to more than 50 lakh street vendors, who had their businesses operational on or before 24 March.
- Stat3: **Small Industries Development Bank of India** is the technical partner for implementation of this scheme.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/02/pm-svanidhi/>

12. Consider the following statements:

1. Recently, this country has declared a new Ebola epidemic in the western city of Mbandaka.
2. This country experiences high precipitation and has the highest frequency of thunderstorms in the world.
3. This nation is bounded by Lake Tanganyika to the East.

Identify the nation based on above statements:

- (a) Republic of the Congo
- (b) Democratic Republic of the Congo
- (c) Tanzania
- (d) Zambia

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Democratic Republic of Congo** has declared a new Ebola epidemic in the western city of Mbandaka.
- The announcement comes as a long, difficult and complex Ebola outbreak in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo is in its final phase, while the country also battles COVID-19 and the world's largest measles outbreak.
- The country lies between latitudes 6°N and 14°S, and longitudes 12° and 32°E. It straddles the Equator, with one-third to the North and two-thirds to the South.
- As a result of its equatorial location, **the DRC experiences high precipitation and has the highest frequency of thunderstorms in the world.** The annual rainfall can total upwards of 2,000 millimetres (80 in) in some places, and the area sustains the Congo Rainforest, the **second-largest rain forest in the world after the Amazon.**



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/02/congo-declares-new-ebola-epidemic/>

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

- | <i>Defence system</i> | <i>developed in</i> |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Iron Dome | Israel |
| 2. Sky Bow | Germany |
| 3. THAAD | USA |

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: (c)

Explanation:

- **Iron Dome** is a mobile all-weather air defense system **developed by Rafael Advanced Defense Systems and Israel Aerospace Industries.**
- **The Sky Bow, or Tien Kung** are a series of surface-to-air anti-ballistic missile and anti-aircraft defense systems that have been **developed by Taiwan.**
- **THAAD:** This anti-ballistic missile defense system has been designed and manufactured by the US company Lockheed Martin.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/02/why-china-is-opposing-thaad-defence-systems-in-south-korea/>



14. Which of the following nations is/are not a member of G-7 club?

1. Russia
2. Canada
3. Japan
4. China

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- 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.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/02/group-of-seven-g-7-club/>

15. Which of the following Credit Rating Agencies is/are registered with SEBI?

1. CRISIL
2. Brickwork Ratings
3. CARE
4. S&P Ratings
5. Moody's Ratings

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- [Source](#): As of now, there are six credit rating agencies registered under SEBI namely, CRISIL, ICRA, CARE, SMERA, Fitch India and Brickwork Ratings.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/02/why-moodys-downgraded-indias-rating/>

16. 'Ishaat Hussain panel', sometimes mentioned in the news with reference to:

- (a) Corporate social responsibility
- (b) Scientific social responsibility
- (c) Social stock exchanges
- (d) Environment social responsibility

Ans: (c)



Explanation:

- A working group constituted by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on social stock exchanges has submitted its recommendations.
- Terms of reference of the panel:
 - The panel was set up by Sebi in September 2019 under the **Chairmanship of Ishaat Hussain**, Director at SBI Foundation and former Finance Director at Tata Sons, **to suggest possible structures and regulations for creating SSE to facilitate listing and fund-raising by social enterprises as well as voluntary organisations.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/02/social-stock-exchanges/>

17. Which one of the following links all the ATMs in India?

- (a) Indian Banks' Association
- (b) National Securities Depository Limit
- (c) Reserve Bank of India
- (d) National Payments Corporation of India

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **National Financial Switch (NFS)** is the largest network of shared automated teller machines (ATMs) in India. It was designed, developed and deployed by the Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology (IDRBT) in 2004, with the goal of inter-connecting the ATMs in the country and facilitating convenience banking.
- National Financial Switch (NFS) ATM network having 3.7 members and connecting about 50,000 **ATMs was taken over by National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) from Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology (IDRBT) on December 14, 2009.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/02/npci-denies-breach-of-bhim-app-data/>

18. Consider the following statements:

1. Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM) is a UPI based payment interface.
2. It was developed by National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).
3. The BHIM apps has two levels of authentication.

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:

- Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM) is a UPI based payment interface.



- **Developed by National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).**
- Allows real time fund transfer.
- Launched in December, 2016.
- **The BHIM apps has three levels of authentication:**
 - For one, the app binds with a device's ID and mobile number.
 - Second a user needs to sync whichever bank account (UPI or non-UPI enabled) in order to the conduct transaction.
 - Third, when a user sets up the app they are asked to create a pin which is needed to log into the app. The UPI pin, which a user creates with their bank account is needed to go through with the transaction.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/02/npci-denies-breach-of-bhim-app-data/>

19. 'Ultra Swachh', is a disinfection unit, developed by:

- (a) NAL
- (b) BHEL
- (c) CSIR
- (d) DRDO

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- It is a disinfection unit to disinfect a wide range of materials, including Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs), electronics items, fabrics, etc.
- **Developed by DRDO.**
- The system uses an advanced oxidative process comprising of multiple barrier disruption approach using Ozonated Space Technology for disinfection.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/02/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-2-june-2020/>

20. "SPIC MACAY", sometimes mentioned in the news, it is:

- (a) Human Rights Movement
- (b) Youth Movement
- (c) Environmental Movement
- (d) Migrants Rights Movement

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Society for the Promotion of Indian Classical Music And Culture Amongst Youth (SPIC MACAY) is a voluntary youth movement which promotes intangible aspects of Indian cultural heritage.**
- It does this by promoting Indian classical music, classical dance, folk music, yoga, meditation, crafts and other aspects of Indian culture.



- It is a movement with chapters in over 300 towns all over the world.
- It was established by Dr. Kiran Seth in 1977 at IIT Delhi.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/02/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-2-june-2020/>

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 3rd -June-2020

21. Which of the following factors have/has bearing on the formation of ‘Cyclones’?

1. low-pressure system
2. high-speed winds
3. humidity

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: (d)

Explanation: **Cyclone formation:**

- Cyclone is the formation of very low-pressure system with very high-speed winds revolving around it.
- Factors like wind speed, wind direction, temperature and humidity contribute to the development of cyclones.
- Before cloud formation, water takes up heat from the atmosphere to change into vapour. When water vapour changes back to liquid form as raindrops, this heat is released to the atmosphere.
- The heat released to the atmosphere warms the air around. The air tends to rise and causes a drop in pressure. More air rushes to the centre of the storm. This cycle is repeated.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/03/cyclonic-storm-nisarga/>

22. “Nivar, Tauktae and Yaas”, sometimes mentioned in the news, they are:

- (a) Tropical insect species
- (b) Water reservoirs
- (c) Nomadic herding community
- (d) upcoming cyclones

Ans: (d)

Explanation:



- Cyclones around the world are named by Regional Specialised Meteorological Centres and Tropical Cyclone Warning Centres. There are a total of six RSMCs and five TCWCs, including the India Meteorological Department.
- The Indian weather bureau has been mandated with the duty to name cyclones that develop over the North Indian ocean, including Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal, by following a standard procedure.
- IMD released a list of cyclone names in April 2020 as suggested by the 13 countries.
- **The next few cyclones will be named Gati (named by India), Nivar (Iran), Burevi (Maldives), Tauktae (Myanmar) and Yaas (Oman).**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/03/cyclonic-storm-nisarga/>

23. Consider the following statements:

1. The Sun's corona is the outermost part of the Sun's atmosphere.
2. Corona is much less dense than the Sun's surface.
3. It can be viewed during a total solar eclipse.

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 Sun's corona is the **outermost part of the Sun's atmosphere**.
- The corona is usually hidden by the bright light of the Sun's surface. That makes it difficult to see without using special instruments.
- However, the **corona can be viewed during a total solar eclipse**.
- The **corona is about 10 million times less dense than the Sun's surface**. This low density makes the corona much less bright than the surface of the Sun.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/03/suns-corona/>

24. 'Sunspots' appear dark on the surface of Sun. It is because:

- (a) gravitational anomaly
- (b) effect of solar winds
- (c) forms at the areas where magnetic fields are weak
- (d) None of the above

Ans: (d)

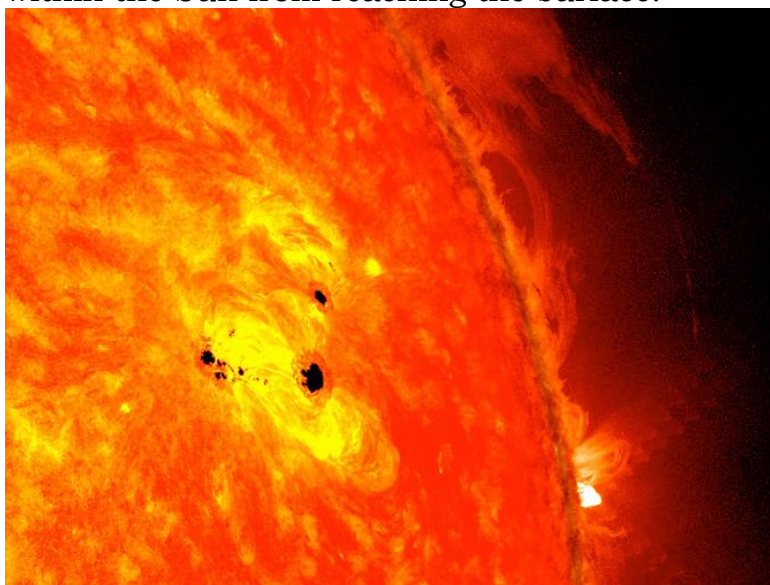
Explanation:

- Sunspots are areas that appear dark on the surface of the Sun. They appear dark because they are cooler than other parts of the



Sun's surface. The temperature of a sunspot is still very hot though—around 6,500 degrees Fahrenheit!

- **Why are sunspots relatively cool? It's because they form at areas where magnetic fields are particularly strong.** These magnetic fields are so strong that they keep some of the heat within the Sun from reaching the surface.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/03/suns-corona/>

25. "EMC 2.0 and SPECS", sometimes mentioned in the news, are primarily aimed at:

- (a) universal basic income
- (b) ease of doing business
- (c) boosting manufacturing industry
- (d) attracting more FDI

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- With the these new schemes, the government aims to **manufacture electronics worth ₹8 lakh crore**, while generating employment for about 10 lakh people in the next five years.
- This is a step towards self-reliant India. A self-reliant India is not an India of isolation. It is not an inward looking India. It is one which enhances its capacity and develops an ecosystem as an asset to the global economy.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/03/electronics-incentive-schemes-launched/>

26. Which among the following announces MSP for various crops at the beginning of each sowing season?

- (a) Respective State Governments
- (b) Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)
- (c) Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs (CCEA)



(d) Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED)

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The **Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs announces MSP for various crops at the beginning of each sowing season based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)**. The CACP takes into account demand and supply, the cost of production and price trends in the market among other things when fixing MSPs.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/03/minimum-support-prices-msps-3/>

27. Consider the following events:

1. National Productivity Council (NPC) was established by the Ministry of Industry.
2. Changing the name of 'Agricultural Prices Commission' to 'Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices'.
3. Most of the Depsang plains were occupied by Chinese Army.

Which of the following is the correct chronological sequence of the above events?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- NPC is national level organization to promote productivity culture in India. **It was established by the Ministry of Industry, Government of India in 1958.**
- The Depsang Plains are located at the Line of Actual Control that separates the Indian and Chinese controlled regions. **The Chinese Army occupied most of the plains in 1962.**
- Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) is a decentralised agency of the Government of India. **It was established in 1965 as the Agricultural Prices Commission, and was given its present name in 1985.** It is an attached office of the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/03/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-3-june-2020/>

28. 'Global Economic Prospects' is the flagship publication of:

- (a) WEF
- (b) IMF
- (c) WB
- (d) ADB

Ans: (c)

Explanation:



- **It is the World Bank's semi-annual flagship publication on the state of the world economy.**
- It examines global economic developments and prospects, with a special focus on emerging market and developing economies.
- It is issued twice a year, in January and June. The January edition includes in-depth analyses of topical policy challenges while the June edition contains shorter analytical pieces.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/03/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-3-june-2020/>

29. "National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC)" is headed by:

- (a) Prime Minister
- (b) President
- (c) Home Minister
- (d) Cabinet Secretary

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- For effective implementation of relief measures in the wake of natural calamities, the Government of India has set up a Standing **National Crisis Management Committee with Cabinet Secretary as Chairman.**

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/03/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-3-june-2020/>

30. Recently 'GATI' web portal has been in news for sometimes, it is created by

- (a) FSSAI
- (b) NPCI
- (c) NHAI
- (d) NIC

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Launched by the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways.
- **Created by NHAI.**

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/01/24/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-24-january-2020/>

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**RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 4th -June-2020**

31. Who among the following was not a member of 'Drafting Committee of Constitution of India'?

- (a) Mohammad Saadulla
- (b) D.P. Khaitan
- (c) B.L. Mitter
- (d) HV Kamath

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- On 29th August 1947, the Constituent Assembly through a resolution appointed a Drafting Committee to
- “..scrutinise the draft of the text of the Constitution of India prepared by Constitutional Adviser, giving effect to the decisions already taken in the Assembly and including all matters which are ancillary thereto or which have to be provided in such a Constitution, and to submit to the Assembly for consideration the text of the draft constitution as revised by the committee”
- The Drafting Committee had seven members: **Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar, N. Gopalaswami; B.R. Ambedkar, K.M Munshi, Mohammad Saadulla, B.L. Mitter and D.P. Khaitan.** At its first meeting on 30th August 1947, the Drafting Committee elected B.R Ambedkar as its Chairman.
- Towards the end of October 1947, the Drafting Committee began to scrutinise the Draft Constitution prepared by the B.N Rau, the Constitutional Advisor. It made various changes and submitted the Draft Constitution to the President of the Constituent Assembly on 21st of February 1948.
- The Drafting Committee and its members were very influential in Indian constitution-making during the Committee stages and the deliberations of the Constituent Assembly. Majority of the debates in Constituent Assembly revolved around the Draft Constitution(s) prepared by the Drafting Committee. Out of 165 sitting of the Constituent Assembly, 114 were spent debating the Draft Constitution(s).

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/04/petition-on-nations-name/>

32. Consider the following statements with reference to *Essential Commodities Act, 1955*:

1. The list of items under the Act include drugs, fertilisers, pulses, edible oils, masks and hand sanitizers only.
2. Under the Act, the government can also fix the maximum support price (MSP) of any packaged product that it declares an “essential commodity”.

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: **Essential Commodities Act, 1955:**

- The ECA was enacted way back in 1955.
- It has since been used by the Government to regulate the production, supply and distribution of a whole host of commodities it declares 'essential' in order to make them available to consumers at fair prices.
- The list of items under the Act include drugs, fertilisers, pulses and edible oils, and petroleum and petroleum products. [Refer for more](#)
- The Centre can include new commodities as and when the need arises, and take them off the list once the situation improves.
- **Under the Act, the government can also fix the maximum retail price (MRP) of any packaged product that it declares an "essential commodity".**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/03/14/what-is-essential-commodities-act/>

33. Consider the following statements:

1. Only 5 states of India shares border with China.
2. 'Johnson's Line and McDonald Line' were proposed during the British, places Aksai Chin under the control of India.

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

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

Ans: (c)

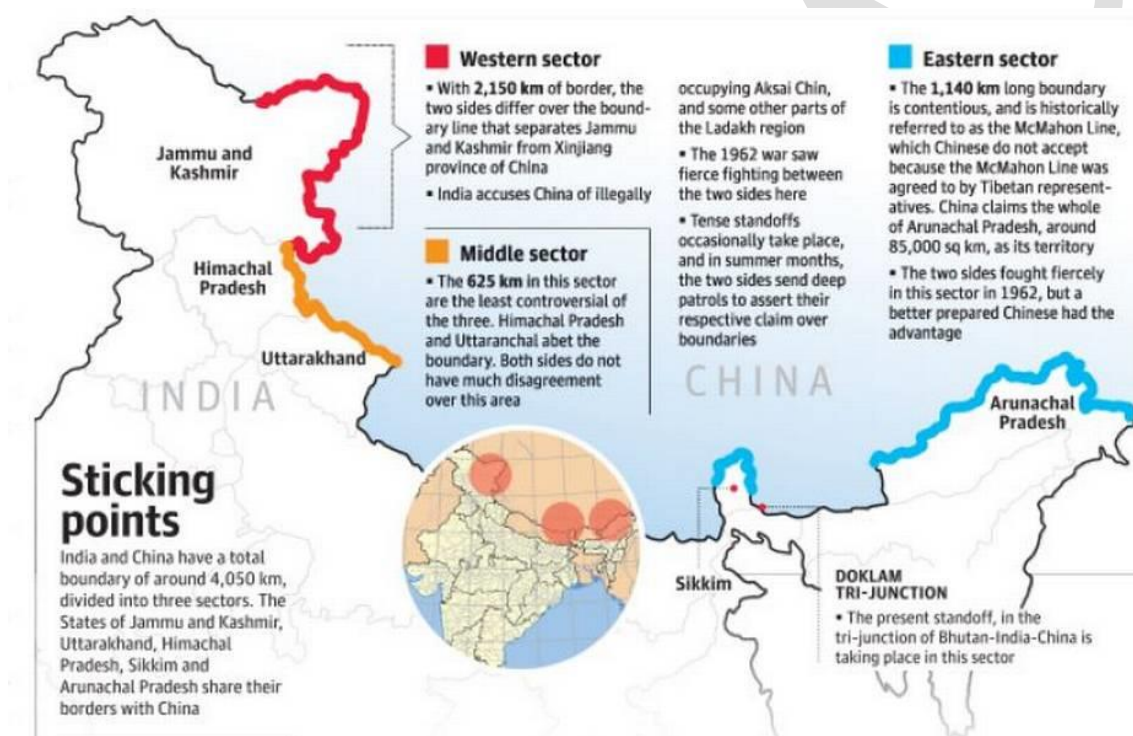
Explanation: **Here the directive word is Not Correct!!**

- Stat2: W. H. Johnson of the Survey of India was commissioned to survey the Aksai Chin region. Johnson noted that Khotan's border was at Brinjsa, in the Kunlun mountains, and the entire the Karakash Valley was within the territory of Kashmir. The boundary of Kashmir that he drew, stretching from Sanju Pass to the eastern edge of Chang Chenmo Valley along the Kunlun mountains, is referred to as the "Johnson Line".
- However, by 1896, China showed interest in Aksai Chin, reportedly with Russian instigation. As part of The Great Game between Britain and Russia, Britain decided on a revised boundary ceding underpopulated border territory to be "filled out" by China. It was initially suggested by Macartney in Kashgar and developed by the Governor General of India Lord Elgin. The new boundary placed the Lingzi Tang plains, which are south of the Lakhsang range, in India, and Aksai Chin proper, which is north of the Lakhsang range, in China. The British presented this line, currently called



the Macartney–MacDonald line, to the Chinese in a note by Sir Claude MacDonald, the British envoy in Peking

- **Therefore Johnson's line places Aksai Chin under India's control whereas McDonald Line places it under China's control.**
- 4 states viz., Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh and a Union Territories of Ladakh (erstwhile state of Jammu & Kashmir) share a border with China.
-



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/04/govt-to-boost-infrastructure-in-areas-along-china-border/>

34. "Visiting Forces Agreement (VFA)", sometimes mentioned in the news recently, it is related to which of the following nation's policy?

- India
- China
- Taiwan
- Philippines

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- A **visiting forces agreement (VFA)** is an agreement between a country and a foreign nation having military forces visiting in that country.
- VFA spells out the rules, guidelines and legal status of the U.S. military when operating in the Philippines.



- The VFA also affirms the 1951 Mutual Defense Treaty as well as the 2014 Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement — agreements that enable the U.S. military to conduct joint exercises and operations in the Philippines.
- **The Philippine Senate ratified the VFA in 1999.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/04/visiting-forces-agreement-vfa/>

35. Consider the following statements:

1. Article 121 deals with the ordinance making power of the President.
2. An ordinance rolled out when both the houses are not in session is void in nature.
3. The famous 'DC Wadhwa case (1987)' is related to President's Ordinance making power.

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

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

Ans: (a)

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

- **Article 123** deals with the ordinance making power of the President. President has many legislative powers and this power is one of them.
- An ordinance rolled out **when both the houses are in session** is void in nature.
- The Parliament has to approve the ordinance within six weeks from its reassembly
- It was argued in **DC Wadhwa vs. State of Bihar (1987)** the legislative power of the executive to promulgate Ordinances is to be used in exceptional circumstances and not as a substitute for the law making power of the legislature. Here, the court was examining a case where a state government (under the authority of the Governor) continued to re-promulgate ordinances, that is, it repeatedly issued new Ordinances to replace the old ones, instead of laying them before the state legislature. A total of 259 Ordinances were re-promulgated, some of them for as long as 14 years. The Supreme Court argued that if Ordinance making was made a usual practice, creating an 'Ordinance raj' the courts could strike down re-promulgated Ordinances.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/04/the-farming-produce-trade-and-commerce-promotion-and-facilitation-ordinance-2020/>

36. The 'e-NAM portal' is managed by:

- (a) NABARD
- (b) NAFED
- (c) FCI
- (d) SFAC



Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- It was launched by **the Ministry of Agriculture**, Government of India. The electronic market pilot across India was launched on 14 April 2016 by Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi. **The Portal is managed by Small Farmers' Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC)** with the technology provider, NFCL's iKisan division.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/04/the-farming-produce-trade-and-commerce-promotion-and-facilitation-ordinance-2020/>

37. "Amery Ice Shelf (AIS)" is located in:

- West coast of Arctic
- North coast of Arctic
- East coast of Antarctica
- None of the above

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The AIS is one of the largest glacier drainage basins in the world, **located on the east coast of Antarctica**, at about 70°S Latitude, 70°E Longitude.
- It is located at the head of Prydz Bay between the Lars Christensen Coast and Ingrid Christensen Coast.
- It is part of Mac. Robertson Land.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/04/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-4-june-2020/>

38. 'Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission' is an autonomous institution of the:

- Ministry of AYUSH
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- Ministry Of Chemicals And Fertilizers
- Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC)** is an autonomous institution of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
 - Formed in 1956
 - Which sets standards for all drugs that are manufactured, sold and consumed in India.
 - The set of standards are published under the title Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP) which has been modelled over and historically follows from the British Pharmacopoeia.
- **Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy (PCIM&H):**
 - Presently, Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy (PCIM&H) is an autonomous body under the aegis of Ministry of AYUSH established since 2010.



- The Commission serves as an umbrella organization for Ayurvedic Pharmacopoeia Committee (APC), Siddha Pharmacopoeia Committee (SPC), Unani Pharmacopoeia Committee (UPC) and Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia Committee (HPC).
- Pharmacopoeial Laboratory for Indian Medicine (PLIM) and Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia Laboratory (HPL) are its supporting structures.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/04/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-4-june-2020/>

39. Which of the following best describes/describe the objectives of 'National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)' of Government of India?

1. To augment and evolve effective and proficient ambient air quality monitoring network across the country for ensuring comprehensive and reliable database.
2. To have efficient data dissemination and public outreach mechanism for timely measures for prevention and mitigation of air pollution.
3. Public participation in both planning and implementation of the programmes and policies of government on air pollution.
4. To have feasible management plan for prevention, control and abatement of water, noise and air pollution.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **National Clean Air Programme (NCAP):**

- **Goal:**

- Goal of NCAP is to meet the prescribed annual average ambient air quality standards at all locations in the country in a stipulated timeframe. The tentative national level target of 20%–30% reduction of PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ concentration by 2024 is proposed under the NCAP taking 2017 as the base year for the comparison of concentration.

- **Objectives:**

- To augment and evolve effective and proficient ambient air quality monitoring network across the country for ensuring comprehensive and reliable database
- To have efficient data dissemination and public outreach mechanism for timely measures for prevention and mitigation of air pollution
- Inclusive public participation in both planning and implementation of the programmes and policies of government on air pollution



- To have feasible management plan for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution.
- **Approach:**
 - Collaborative, Multi-scale and Cross-Sectoral Coordination between relevant Central Ministries, State Government and local bodies.
 - Focus on no Regret Measures, Participatory and Disciplined approach

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/03/14/national-clean-air-programme-ncap-3/>

40. *Innovate in India (I3)* is an industry- academia collaborative mission of
- (a) NITI Aayog and WIPO
 - (b) Cell for IPR Promotion and Management (CIPAM) and WTO
 - (c) Department of Biotechnology (DBT) with World Bank
 - (d) Department of Higher Education (India) and WIPO

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Innovate in India (I3)** is an industry- academia collaborative mission of **Department of Biotechnology (DBT)** in collaboration with **World Bank** for accelerating discovery research to early development of Biopharmaceuticals and to be implemented by Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC).

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/03/14/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-14-march-2020/>

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 5th -June-2020

41. A constitutional challenge to the 'Tenth Schedule (Anti-defection law)' was settled by the apex court in which of the following case?

- (a) Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala
- (b) Minerva Mills v. Union of India
- (c) K. S. Puttaswamy vs Union Of India
- (d) Kihoto Hollohan vs Zachillhu And Others

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- In the arguments in the Supreme Court in the case related to the political crisis in Karnataka, advocate has cited the landmark judgment in **Kihoto Hollohan vs Zachillhu And Others (1992)**, in



which the court upheld the sweeping discretion available to the Speaker in deciding cases of disqualification of MLAs.

- The law covering the disqualification of legislators and the powers of the Speaker in deciding such matters became part of the statute book in 1985 when the Tenth Schedule to the Constitution was adopted.
- **A constitutional challenge to the Tenth Schedule was settled by the apex court in Kihoto Hollohan.**
- The principal question before the Supreme Court in the case was whether the powerful role given to the Speaker violated the doctrine of Basic Structure — the judicial principle that certain basic features of the Constitution cannot be altered by amendments by Parliament, laid down in the landmark judgment in Kesavananda Bharati vs State Of Kerala (1973).

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/05/disqualification-shadow-on-7-nagaland-mlas/>

42. 'Section 300 and 302 of IPC', sometimes mentioned in the news, are related to:

- Domestic violence on women's
- Racism and classism
- Lock up deaths and fake encounters
- Lynching incidents

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- There is "no separate" definition for such incidents under the existing IPC. **Lynching incidents can be dealt with under Section 300 and 302 of IPC.**
- Section 302 provides that whoever commits murder shall be punished with death or imprisonment for life and shall also be liable to fine. Offence of murder is a cognisable, non-bailable and non-compoundable offence.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/05/law-against-mob-lynching/>

43. Consider the following statements:

- TULIP program provides fresh graduates experiential learning opportunities in the rural sector.
- It was launched by Ministry of Rural Development.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

- 1 Only
- 2 Only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (d)

Explanation:



- TULIP – Urban Learning Internship Program for providing opportunities to fresh Graduates in all ULBs & Smart Cities launched.
- TULIP has been conceived pursuant to the Budget 2020-21 announcement by the Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman under the theme ‘Aspirational India’.

Key features:

- TULIP is a program for providing fresh graduates experiential learning opportunities in the urban sector.
- It would help enhance the value-to-market of India’s graduates and help create a potential talent pool in diverse fields like urban planning, transport engineering, environment, municipal finance etc.
- It will lead to infusion of fresh ideas and energy with engagement of youth in co-creation of solutions for solving India’s urban challenges.
- This launch is also an important stepping stone for fulfilment of MHRD and AICTE’s goal of 1 crore successful internships by the year 2025.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/05/tulip-urban-learning-internship-program/>

44. Recently, ‘SWADES’ initiative has been in news for sometimes, is undertaken as a part of:

- (a) Pravasi Bharatiya Divas
- (b) Study India Programme
- (c) Know India Programme
- (d) Vande Bharat Mission

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The initiative, undertaken as part of the **Vande Bharat Mission**, aims at empowering the returning citizens with relevant employment opportunities.
- **Key features:**
 - It is a joint initiative of the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, the Ministry of Civil Aviation and the Ministry of External Affairs.
 - The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) is supporting the implementation of the project.
 - It aims to create a database of qualified citizens based on their skill sets and experience to tap into and fulfil demand of Indian and foreign companies.
 - The collected information will be shared with the companies for suitable placement opportunities in the country.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/05/swades-skill-mapping-exercise-for-returning-citizens/>



45. Recently, India has signed a historic agreement, called 'Mutual Logistics Support Agreement (MLSA)' with which of the following nation?

- (a) China
- (b) South Korea
- (c) Sri Lanka
- (d) Australia

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **India and Australia have signed a historic agreement, called 'Mutual Logistics Support Agreement (MLSA)',** to allow access to military bases for logistics support.
- This was agreed upon at the first-ever virtual bilateral summit between India Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Australian counterpart Scott Morrison.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/05/mutual-logistics-support-agreement-mlsa/>

46. 'SaalBhar60' is a new campaign on:

- (a) Save Elephants
- (b) Protection to migrants workers
- (c) Air pollution
- (d) Pension to elders

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **A new campaign on air pollution** unveiled by Haridwar-based Ridhima Pandey.
- It demands that the government put in place measures to ensure that the PM 2.5 levels in cities is 60 micrograms per cubic metre, which is the safe limit for 24 hours as prescribed by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/05/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-5-june-2020/>

47. Which of the following nations of Africa have coastlines on the Mediterranean Sea?

- 1. Italy
- 2. Libya
- 3. Greece
- 4. Algeria
- 5. Tunisia

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- (a) 2, 4 and 5
- (b) 1, 3, and 5
- (c) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- (d) All of the above

Ans: (a)

Explanation:



- **Five countries of Africa have coastlines on Mediterranean Sea**, which are Tunisia, Libya, Algeria, Morocco, and Egypt. Libya's coastline is the longest of them, stretching over 1,100 miles.



Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/05/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-5-june-2020/>

48. Consider the following features:

1. This nation is a part of the Ring of Fire
2. It is one of the megadiverse countries in biodiversity and ranking first in bird species
3. It shares its maritime limits with Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, Jamaica, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic

Identify the nation based on above statements:

- (a) Brazil
- (b) Cuba
- (c) Mexico
- (d) Colombia

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **The theme for 2020 is "Time for Nature", and will be hosted in Colombia in partnership with Germany.**
- **About Colombia**
 - Colombia is one of the largest "Megadiverse" nations in the world to hold 10% of the planet's biodiversity.
 - Since it is part of the Amazon rain forest, Colombia ranks first in bird and orchid species diversity and second in plants, butterflies, freshwater fish, and amphibians.



- Colombia is bordered to the northwest by Panama, to the east by Venezuela and Brazil, and to the south by Ecuador and Peru
- It established its maritime boundaries with neighboring countries through seven agreements on the Caribbean Sea and three on the Pacific Ocean.
- It shares its maritime limits with Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, Jamaica, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic.
- Part of the Ring of Fire, a region of the world subject to earthquakes and volcanic eruptions



Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/05/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-5-june-2020/>

49. 'Devonian Period', sometimes mentioned in the news, is primarily related to
- (a) Age of Fishes
 - (b) Cold climate, increased evidence to ice caps
 - (c) Phenomenon of increased dissolved oxygen in oceans
 - (d) All of the above

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Devonian Period**, in geologic time, an **interval of the Paleozoic Era** that follows the **Silurian Period** and precedes the **Carboniferous Period**, spanning between about 419.2 million and 358.9 million years ago.



- The Devonian Period is sometimes called the “**Age of Fishes**” because of the diverse, abundant, and, in some cases, bizarre types of these creatures that swam Devonian seas.
- During most of the Devonian Period, North America, Greenland, and Europe were united into a single Northern Hemisphere landmass, a minor supercontinent called Laurussia or Euramerica.
- An ocean covered approximately 85 percent of the Devonian globe. **There is limited evidence of ice caps, and the climate is thought to have been warm and equitable.**
- The oceans experienced episodes of **reduced dissolved oxygen levels**, which likely caused the extinction of many species, especially marine animals.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/03/23/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-23-march-2020/>

50. Why is a plant called ‘Carissa kopilii’ often mentioned in news?

- (a) Its extract is used in the synthesis of pesticides.
- (b) It tends to reduce the biodiversity in the area in which it grows.
- (c) Its extract is widely used in medicines.
- (d) Its extract is widely used in Cosmetics.

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **The Carissa kopilii** is threatened by the very **river** it is named after — **Kopili** in central **Assam**. It is a distant cousin of multi-utility wild berry.
- It has been used as a **traditional herbal medicine** for a number of ailments such as diarrhoea, anaemia, constipation, indigestion, skin infections and urinary disorders. The **leaves** have been used as **fodder for silkworms** while a paste of its pounded roots serves as a fly repellent.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/03/23/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-23-march-2020/>

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 6th -June-2020

51. With reference to “Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Rules of 2020”, consider the following statements:

1. As per the draft rules, for owning and using a drone, one has to be at least 21 years old.
2. No UAS should carry any payload except as permitted by the Airports Authority 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: (d)

Explanation:

- **Who can sell drones?** Only authorised entities.
- **Who can own or operate?** Entities authorised by the Director General of Civil Aviation.
- **Permits** for flying these also have to be sought online and a log has to be shared after the flight.
- **Applicability:** The norms apply to all existing drones as well.
- **Exception:** Nano-drones weighing 250 grams or less can be operated without a drone pilot license.
- **Insurance:** No unmanned aircraft (UA) system shall be operated in India unless there is in existence a valid third party insurance policy to cover the liability that may arise on account of a mishap.
- **Rule number 36 and 38** in the Ministry’s draft state **that no unmanned aircraft shall carry any payload, unless specified by the Director General of DGCA.** Neither shall a person “drop or project or cause or permit to be dropped or projected from a UAS (unmanned aircraft system) in motion anything,” except when specified.
- **Eligibility:** For owning and using a drone, one has to **be at least 18 years old.** In the case of companies, the requirement is that their main place of business has to be in India and the chairman and at least two thirds of directors have to be Indian citizens. Also, businesses operating drones have to be substantially owned and effectively controlled by Indian nationals.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/06/unmanned-aircraft-system-uas-rules-of-2020/>

52. In India, which one of the following acts as the nodal agency, to give permission to any foreigner to participate in any international event?

- (a) Ministry of Tourism
- (b) Ministry of Culture
- (c) Ministry of External Affairs
- (d) Ministry of Home Affairs

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Home Ministry is the nodal agency that gives permission to any foreigner to participate in any international event.**
- The MHA had blacklisted 960 foreigners who participated in the Tablighi Jamaat event in March at Nizamuddin markaz (centre) in Delhi in March 2020.
- A foreigner who is blacklisted cannot get a visa from any of the missions to come to India.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/06/tablighi-activity-now-a-specific-visa-violation/>

53. Consider the following statements about “Payment Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF)”:

1. It has a corpus of Rs. 5000 crore
2. This fund will be managed and administered by the RBI.

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:

- In an effort to give a push to digital payments across the country, the Reserve **Bank of India (RBI)** is setting up a **Payment Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF) of Rs 500 crore.**
- Objective: This fund has been created to encourage acquirers to deploy point of sale (PoS) infrastructure, both physical and digital, in tier-3 to tier-6 centres and north eastern states.
- **Contributions to the fund:** The RBI has made an initial contribution of Rs 250 crore covering half the fund. The remaining will come from the card issuing banks and card networks operating in the country.
- Management: The fund will be governed through an advisory council but it will **be managed and administered by the RBI.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/06/payments-infrastructure-development-fund-pidf/>



54. Consider the following statements:

1. The LiDAR system works in much the same way as the RADAR, with the only difference being that it uses radio waves instead of laser.
2. Both RADAR and LiDAR can operate in bad weather condition.

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:

- **LiDAR:** It is a remote sensing method that uses light in the form of a pulsed laser to measure ranges (variable distances) to the Earth.
 - A lidar instrument principally consists of a laser, a scanner, and a specialized GPS receiver.
- **RADAR stands for Radio Detection and Ranging System.** It is basically an electromagnetic system used to detect the location and distance of an object from the point where the RADAR is placed. It works by radiating energy into space and monitoring the echo or reflected signal from the objects.

LiDAR	RADAR
It uses laser light rays (NIR, visible) for transmission and reception medium.	It uses radio waves (microwave signals in the range of 1 cm wavelength) for transmission and reception medium
It can provide accurate surface measurements with 3D mapping	Size and the position of the object can be identified fairly using RADAR
It uses charge coupled device (CCD) optics and lasers for transmission and reception	It uses antennae for transmission and reception of the signals
Lower wavelengths allow detection of very small objects e.g., cloud particles	Target size is limited by longer wavelength
Performance degraded with bad atmospheric condition	It can operate in bad weather conditions

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/06/lidar-light-detection-and-ranging/>

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

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Rivers in News</i> | <i>Location</i> |
| 1. Ambarnaya | West Africa |
| 2. Amu Darya | Central Asia |
| 3. Orinoco | North America |

Select the correct answer using the code below:



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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Orinoco River, major river of South America** that flows in a giant arc for some 1,700 miles (2,740 km) from its source in the Guiana Highlands to its mouth on the Atlantic Ocean. Throughout most of its course it flows through Venezuela, except for a section that forms part of the frontier between Venezuela and Colombia.
- **Amu Darya is a major river in Central Asia and Afghanistan.** It is formed by the junction of the Vakhsh and Panj rivers, in the Tigrovaya Balka Nature Reserve on the border between Afghanistan and Tajikistan, and flows from there north-westwards into the southern remnants of the Aral Sea. In ancient history, the river was regarded as the boundary between Greater Iran and Turan.
- **Ambarnaya is a river in Siberia** which flows in a northerly direction into Lake Pyasino. On leaving Lake Pyasino, the waters emerge as the Pyasina River.
- The river is fed by rain and meltwater. It is shallow and its bed consists of glacial moraine – gravel and pebbles. It is heavily polluted by the mining industry of Norilsk, so fishing is no longer possible.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/06/oil-spill-in-russias-arctic-region/>

56. 'Kara Strait', sometimes mentioned in the news, it connects:

- (a) Kara Sea and Barents Sea
- (b) Beaufort Sea and Chukchi Sea
- (c) Kara Sea and Baltic Sea
- (d) Laptev Sea and White Sea

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- The Kara Strait or Kara Gates is a 56 km (35 mi) wide channel of water between the southern end of Novaya Zemlya and the northern tip of Vaygach Island. **This strait connects the Kara Sea and the Barents Sea in northern Russia.**
- The Kara Strait was an important waterway in the early exploration of the Northern Sea Route.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/06/oil-spill-in-russias-arctic-region/>

57. Consider the following statements:

1. Mangrove forests only grow at tropical and subtropical latitudes
 2. The Sundarbans lies in latitudes north of the Tropic of Cancer
- 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:

- Mangrove trees grow in areas with low-oxygen soil, where slow-moving waters allow fine sediments to accumulate.
- Mangrove forests only grow at tropical and subtropical latitudes near the equator because they cannot withstand freezing temperatures.
- The **Sundarbans** lies **south** of the **Tropic of Cancer**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/06/sundarbans-devastated-by-cyclone-amphan/>

58. Consider the following statements with reference to “Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 2019”:

1. Under UAPA, both Indian and foreign nationals can be charged.



2. Individuals can be designated as terrorists on certain grounds provided in the 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: (c)

Explanation:

- The 2004 amendment, added “terrorist act” to the list of offences to ban organisations for terrorist activities, under which 34 outfits were banned. Till 2004, “unlawful” activities referred to actions related to secession and cession of territory.
- In August, **Parliament cleared the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Bill, 2019 to designate individuals as terrorists on certain grounds provided in the Act.**
 - 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/2020/06/06/unlawful-activities-prevention-act-5/>

59. “Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (ECGC)” functions under the control of:

- (a) Ministry of Finance
- (b) Ministry of External Affairs
- (c) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- (d) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- It is a **fully government-owned company** that was established in 1957 to promote exports by providing credit insurance services.
- The **ECGC provides Export Credit Insurance to Banks (ECIB)** to protect the banks from losses on account of export credit at the Pre and Post-Shipment stage given to exporters due to the risks of insolvency or protracted default of the exporter borrower.
- **It functions under the administrative control of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Department of Commerce.**

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/06/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-6-june-2020/>



60. consider the following statements:

1. Benapole is on the Indian side of the border with Bangladesh.
2. It is the only land port in south Bengal.

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:

- **Petrapole is on the Indian side of the border with Bangladesh.**
The Bangladesh border point is called Benapole. Petrapole is the largest land custom point in India and Asia.
- **Petrapole border is the only land port in south Bengal. It is also the largest land customs station in Asia.**

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/06/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-6-june-2020/>

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 8th -June-2020

61. Consider the following statements about Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC):

1. It is an intergovernmental alliance consisting of all Arab states of the Persian Gulf except Iraq.
2. All current member states of GCC are monarchies

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 **Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)** is a political and economic alliance of six countries in the Arabian Peninsula: Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.



- **All current member states are monarchies**, including three constitutional monarchies (Qatar, Kuwait, and Bahrain), two absolute monarchies (Saudi Arabia and Oman), and one federal monarchy (the United Arab Emirates, which is composed of seven member states, each of which is an absolute monarchy with its own emir).



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/08/cooperative-security-in-persian-gulf-littoral/>

62. Consider the following statements:

1. One of the important objective of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India is to simplify GST tax structures.
2. It has been designated as the 'Authority' under the Companies Rules, 2017.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India was established on 1st October, 2016 under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (Code).** It is a key pillar of the ecosystem responsible for implementation of the Code that consolidates and amends the laws relating to reorganization and insolvency resolution of corporate persons, partnership firms and individuals in a time bound manner for maximization of the value of assets of such persons, to promote entrepreneurship, availability of credit and balance the interests of all the stakeholders.



- **It is a unique regulator: regulates a profession as well as processes.** It has regulatory oversight over the Insolvency Professionals, Insolvency Professional Agencies, Insolvency Professional Entities and Information Utilities.
- It writes and enforces rules for processes, namely, corporate insolvency resolution, corporate liquidation, individual insolvency resolution and individual bankruptcy under the Code.
- It has recently been tasked to promote the development of, and regulate, the working and practices of, insolvency professionals, insolvency professional agencies and information utilities and other institutions, in furtherance of the purposes of the Code.
- **It has also been designated as the 'Authority' under the Companies (Registered Valuers and Valuation Rules), 2017 for regulation and development of the profession of valuers in the country.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/08/insolvency-and-bankruptcy-code/>

63. The term "sixth mass extinction/sixth extinction" is often mentioned in the news in the context of the discussion of
- (a) Widespread monoculture Practices agriculture and large-scale commercial farming with indiscriminate use of chemicals in many parts of the world that may result in the loss of good native ecosystems.
 - (b) Fears of a possible collision of a meteorite with the Earth in the near future in the manner it happened 65million years ago that caused the mass extinction of many species including those of dinosaurs.
 - (c) Large scale cultivation of genetically modified crops in many parts of the world and promoting their cultivation in other Parts of the world which may cause the disappearance of good native crop plants and the loss of food biodiversity.
 - (d) Mankind's over-exploitation/misuse of natural resources, fragmentation/loss, natural habitats, destruction of ecosystems, pollution and global climate change.

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Mass extinction** refers to a substantial increase in the degree of extinction or when the Earth loses more than three-quarters of its species in a geologically short period of time.
- So far, during the entire history of the Earth, there have been five mass extinctions.
- **The Holocene extinction, otherwise referred to as the Sixth extinction or Anthropocene extinction**, is the ongoing extinction event of species during the present Holocene epoch, **mainly as a result of human activity**.
- The large number of extinctions spans numerous families of plants and animals, including mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles and arthropods.



- With widespread degradation of highly bio-diverse habitats such as coral reefs and rainforests, as well as other areas, the vast majority of these extinctions is thought to be undocumented, as we are either not even aware of the existence of the species before they go extinct, or we haven't yet discovered their extinction.
- The current rate of extinction of species is estimated at 100 to 1,000 times higher than natural background rates.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/08/sixth-mass-extinction/>

64. Consider the following statements about Dibru-Saikhowa National Park:

1. It is located in Arunachal Pradesh.
2. It lies on the bank of Dibang River.
3. It is the largest Salix swamp forest in north-eastern India.

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

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

Ans: (a)

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

- Stat1: **Dibru-Saikhowa National Park** is a national park in **Assam**, India, located in Dibrugarh and Tinsukia districts.
- Stat2: The Park is bounded by the **Brahmaputra and Lohit Rivers** in the north and **Dibru river** in the south.
- Stat3: It mainly consists of moist mixed semi-evergreen forests, moist mixed deciduous forests, canebrakes and grasslands. It is the **largest salix swamp forest** in north-eastern India, **with a tropical monsoon climate with a hot and wet summer and cool and usually dry winter.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/08/assam-gas-leak/>

65. 'Jaya Jaitly task force' recently in news has been constituted by:

- (a) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- (b) Ministry of External Affairs
- (c) Ministry of Finance
- (d) Ministry of Women and Child Development

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Constituted by Women and Child Development Ministry.**
- To examine issues related to age of motherhood, lowering Maternal Mortality Rate and improvement of nutritional levels.
- Headed by Jaya Jaitly and it will submit its report by 31st July of next month.
- The mandate of the task force involves examining the correlation of age of marriage and motherhood with health, medical well-being



and nutritional status of mother and neonate/infant/child, during pregnancy, birth and thereafter.

Refer: facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/08/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-8-june-2020/>

66. Consider the following statements about Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO):

1. It is a specialized agency of the United Nations.
2. It is depository of Seed Treaty.
3. One of FAO's strategic goals is the sustainable management of the world's forests.

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:

- Stat1: **The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)** is a specialized agency of the United Nations that leads international efforts to defeat hunger and improve nutrition and food security.
- Stat2: **FAO is depository of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture**, also called Plant Treaty, Seed Treaty or ITPGRFA, entered into force on 29 June 2004.
- Stat3: FAO is **both a global clearinghouse for information on forests and forest resources and a facilitator** that helps build countries' local capacity to provide their own national forest data. In collaboration with member countries, FAO carries out periodic global assessments of forest resources, which are made available through reports, publications and the FAO's Web site. **The Global Forest Resources Assessment** provides comprehensive reporting on forests worldwide every five years.

Refer: facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/08/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-8-june-2020/>

67. Chhattisgarh govt launches 'Spandan Campaign' recently, to check:

- (a) deforestation
- (b) foeticide and infanticide
- (c) food insecurity
- (d) suicide and fratricide

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Chhattisgarh government has launched the **Spandan Campaign** to contain incidents of **suicide and fratricide involving police personnel**.



- Under the campaign, the superintendents of police associated with the Chhattisgarh Government will start a parade in their districts every Friday. After the event, the grievances of the personnel are to be addressed. Also, the campaign has made medical treatment and counselling of depressed officers mandatory.

Refer: facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/08/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-8-june-2020/>

68. Consider the following statements about prepaid payment instruments

1. Prepaid payment instruments are those which facilitate purchase of both goods and services against the value stored on such instruments.
2. Inter-personal remittance transactions is not possible.
3. These payment instruments are licensed and regulated by the Ministry of Finance.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Ans: (c)

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

- **Prepaid payment instruments** are those which facilitate purchase of goods and services against the value stored on such instruments. Value stored on them is paid by the holder using a medium (cash, debit card, credit card etc).
- These are generally issued in the form of smart cards, mobile wallets, paper vouchers, internet accounts/wallets.
- **Prepaid payment instruments (PPIs)** come with a pre-loaded value and in some cases a pre-defined purpose of payment. They **facilitate** the purchase of goods and services as well as **inter-personal remittance transactions** such as sending money to a friend or a family member.
- **These payment instruments are licensed and regulated by the Reserve Bank of India.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2019/02/26/prepaid-payment-instruments/>

69. Consider the following statements about Green Climate Fund (GCF).

1. It is established within the framework of the Kyoto Protocol.
2. It assists developing countries in adaptation and mitigation practices to counter climate change.
3. The GCF is based in Incheon, South Korea.

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:

- The **Green Climate Fund (GCF)** is a fund established within the **framework of the UNFCCC** as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism to assist developing countries in adaptation and mitigation practices to counter climate change. The **GCF is based in Incheon, South Korea.**

Refer: <https://www.greenclimate.fund/>

70. Consider the following statements about Indian Rhinoceros.

1. In India, rhinos are found in Jaldapara National Park and Garumara National Park.
2. Only female rhinos have horn.
3. The rhino is the second largest land animal after Elephant.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- The preferred habitat of an Indian rhinoceros is alluvial flood plains and areas containing tall grasslands along the foothills of the Himalayas. Formerly, extensively distributed in the Gangetic plains, today the species is restricted to small habitats in Indo-Nepal terai and northern West Bengal and Assam. In India, rhinos are mainly found **in Kaziranga NP, Pobitora WLS, Orang NP, Manas NP in Assam, Jaldapara NP and Garumara NP in West Bengal and Dudhwa TR in Uttar Pradesh.**
- **The Indian rhino has a single horn, which is present in both sexes.** It is the largest of all the Asian rhinos.
- **The rhino is the fourth largest land animal.**

Refer: <https://www.britannica.com/animal/rhinoceros-mammal>

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 9th -June-2020

71. Consider the following statements:

1. Rice crop needs a hot and humid climate.
2. India is the largest rice producing nation in the world.
3. Recently, West Bengal government's rice research institution has developed new variety of rice called Muktoshrri that can be grown in lead prone areas.

Which of the given above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **Here the directive word is incorrcet!!**

- Stat1: In India rice is grown under widely varying conditions of altitude and climate. Rice cultivation in India extends from 8 to 35°N latitude and from sea level to as high as 3000 meters. **Rice crop needs a hot and humid climate.** It is best suited to regions which have high humidity, prolonged sunshine and an assured supply of water. The average temperature required throughout the life period of the crop ranges from 21 to 37° C. Maximum temp which the crop can tolerate 40°C to 42°C.
- Stat2: **China is the largest producer of rice** contributing for over 30% of the world's rice output. India occupies the second position accounting for about 22% followed by Indonesia with 8%, Bangladesh with 7% and Vietnam with 6% of total rice production in the world.
- Stat3: West Bengal government's rice research centre has come up with a new variety of rice called **Muktoshri** that can be grown **in arsenic prone areas**. It was developed jointly by the Rice Research Station at Chinsurah, coming under West Bengal's Agriculture Department and the National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/09/direct-seeding-of-rice/>

72. The Foreign exchange reserves of India mainly consists of :

1. Foreign Currency Assets
2. Gold
3. Special Drawing Rights (SDRs)
4. Reserve Tranche Position

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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



Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Reserve Bank of India Act** and the **Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999** set the legal provisions for governing the foreign exchange reserves. Reserve Bank of India accumulates foreign currency reserves by purchasing from authorized dealers in open market operations. Foreign exchange reserves of India act as a cushion against rupee volatility once global interest rates start rising.
- **The Foreign exchange reserves of India consists of below four categories;**
 - Foreign Currency Assets
 - Gold
 - Special Drawing Rights (SDRs)
 - Reserve Tranche Position

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/09/rising-forex-reserves-and-its-importance/>

73. 'ARPIT', is a rescue pod, it was designed, developed and manufactured by:

- (a) CSIR
- (b) DRDO
- (c) Indian Air Force
- (d) Indian Navy

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Designed, developed and manufactured by **Indian Air Force**.
- The pod is used for **the evacuation of critical patients with infectious diseases from the high altitude, remote and isolated areas across the country**.
- It has a transparent and durable cast Perspex for enhanced patient visibility which is larger, higher, and wider than the existing models.
- The ARPIT uses **High-Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) H-13 class filters** and supports invasive ventilation using Transport Ventilator.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/09/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-9-june-2020/>

74. The Central Administrative Tribunal was established by:

- (a) President
- (b) Prime Minister
- (c) Cabinet
- (d) None of the above

Ans: (d)

Explanation:



- **The Central Administrative Tribunal** was **established by an Act of Parliament** namely Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985 as sequel to the 42nd amendment of the Constitution of India inserting Article 323 A.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/09/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-9-june-2020/>

75. Recently, 'NAIMISHA 2020' has been in news, it was organized to primarily help:

- (a) COVID19 patients
- (b) Migrants
- (c) School children
- (d) Art enthusiasts

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- It is **an initiative to provide a chance to participants and art enthusiasts to create and learn from practising artists.**
- The programme includes online workshops sessions on painting, sculpture, printmaking and indrajaal (an interdisciplinary creative workshop).
- Organised by **National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA).**
- The exhibition of selected artworks from the program will be displayed on **So'ham, the cultural media platform of NGMA.**

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/09/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-9-june-2020/>

76. India's first online waste exchange platform was recently launched by:

- (a) Odisha
- (b) Kerala
- (c) Telangana
- (d) Andhra Pradesh

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Launched by **the Andhra Pradesh Government.**
- It will help the authorities **monitor the movement of hazardous waste real-time using the tools incorporated in the platform.**
- The platform will be handled by the **AP Environment Management Corporation (APEMC).**
- The APEMC will streamline collection of the waste from industries, sort and streamline the waste as hazardous or non-hazardous or e-waste according to category, and scientifically dispose it off at various waste disposal centres.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/09/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-9-june-2020/>



77. Consider the following statements regarding Gangetic river dolphins.

1. It is declared as India's National Aquatic animal.
2. It is placed under the "endangered" category by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).
3. It can only live in freshwater, and catch their prey using ultrasonic sound waves.

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:

- **The Gangetic river dolphins** were officially discovered in 1801 and are one of the oldest creatures in the world along with some species of turtles, crocodiles and sharks, according to the World Wildlife Fund (WWF). **They once lived in the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna and Karnaphuli-Sangu river systems of Nepal, India, and Bangladesh, but are now mostly extinct from many of its early distribution ranges, as per WWF.**
- In 2009, the Gangetic dolphins were declared India's National Aquatic animal during the first meeting of the erstwhile National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) and it is placed under the "**endangered**" category by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The Gangetic river dolphins can only live in freshwater, are blind and catch their prey in a unique manner, using ultrasonic sound waves. These dolphins prefer deep waters and, as per WWF, they are distributed across seven states in India: Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal.
- Their numbers have dwindled in the last few decades mainly because of direct killing, habitat fragmentation by dams and barrages and indiscriminate fishing.
- In addition to the species being India's national aquatic animal, the Gangetic dolphin has been notified by the Assam government as the state aquatic animal, too.
- Some of the efforts made to preserve and increase the numbers of these dolphins include the setting up of the **Conservation Action Plan for the Gangetic Dolphin (2010-2020)**, which has identified threats to Gangetic dolphins and impact of river traffic, irrigation canals and depletion of prey-base on dolphin populations.
- Additionally, the Gangetic dolphins have been included in **Schedule -I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972**, which means they have the highest degree of protection against hunting. They are also one among the 21 species identified under the centrally sponsored scheme, "**Development of Wildlife Habitat**".



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2019/12/17/project-dolphin/>

78. NIRVIK Scheme, recently in news is related to

- (a) Pension scheme for retail traders and self-employed persons
- (b) Provide enhanced insurance cover and reduce premium for exporters
- (c) National public procurement programme
- (d) Assistance to States for creating Infrastructure for the Development and growth of Exports

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- The Finance Minister announced the **NIRVIK scheme** in the Union Budget 2020-21.
- **It will provide high insurance cover for exporters and reduce premium for small exporters.** To achieve higher export credit disbursement, a new scheme NIRVIK is being launched which provides for high insurance cover, reduction in premium for small exporters and simplified procedures for claim, settlement.
- Under the Scheme, also called the Export Credit Insurance Scheme (ECIS), the insurance guarantee could cover up to 90% of the principal and interest.
- The Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC) cover will also provide additional comfort to banks as the credit rating of the borrower is enhanced to AA rated account. Enhanced cover will ensure that Foreign and Rupee export credit interest rates will be below 4% and 8% respectively for exporters.
- **Under ECIS, insurance cover percentage has also been enhanced to 90% from the present average of 60% for the both principal and interest.**
- **The Export Credit Corporation currently provides credit guarantee of up to 60 percent loss.**
- The development assumes significance as exporters have raised concerns over availability of credit.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2019/09/17/nirvik-scheme/>

79. Recently the Government launched Mission Purvodaya. It is related to

- (a) Development of tourism in Eastern India.
- (b) Turtle conservation on India's eastern coast.
- (c) Develop Eastern India as an integrated steel hub.
- (d) Petroleum and Natural gas production in Eastern India.

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Steel launched PURVODAYA: Accelerated development of eastern India through integrated steel hub.**
- Purvodaya in steel sector is aimed at driving accelerated development of Eastern India through establishment of integrated steel hub. Eastern states of India (Odisha, Jharkhand,



Chhattisgarh, West Bengal) and Northern part of Andhra Pradesh collectively hold ~80% of the country's iron ore, ~100% of coking coal and significant portion of chromite, bauxite and dolomite reserves. There is presence of major ports such as Paradip, Haldia, Vizag, Kolkata etc., with >30% of India's major port capacity. In India's march towards a \$5 trillion economy, the 5 Eastern states can play a major role where steel sector can become the catalyst. This Eastern belt has the potential to add more than 75% of the country's incremental steel capacity envisioned by the National Steel Policy. It is expected that out of the 300 MT capacity by 2030-31, over 200 MT can come from this region alone, driven by Industry 4.0.

- The proposed Integrated Steel Hub, encompassing Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal and Northern Andhra Pradesh, would serve as a torchbearer for socio-economic growth of Eastern India.
- **The objective of this hub** would be to enable swift capacity addition and improve overall competitiveness of steel producers both in terms of cost and quality.

Refer: facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/01/13/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-13-january-2020/>

80. Consider the following statements regarding National Ganga Council (NGC).

1. National Ganga Council (NGC) is currently headed by the Minister of Jal Shakti.
2. It was created under the River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management) Authorities Order, 2016.
3. The council works towards rejuvenation of River Ganga to its natural and pristine condition and to ensure continuous adequate flow of water.

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:

- **National Ganga Council (NGC):** Created in October 2016 under the River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management) Authorities Order, 2016, dissolving the National Ganga River Basin Authority.
- **Headed by the Prime Minister.**
- It replaced the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA).
- The council consists of chief ministers from five states along the Ganga — Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Uttarakhand, Bihar and



Jharkhand along with nine Union ministers and NITI Aayog vice chairman.

- The **central objective** of the council is to work on the “protection, prevention, control and abatement of environmental pollution in River Ganga and its rejuvenation to its natural and pristine condition and to ensure continuous adequate flow of water”. The council is supposed to meet every year.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2019/12/16/namami-gange-2/>

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 10th -June-2020

81. Consider the following statements:

1. The 61th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1991 provided a special status to the Union Territory of Delhi.
2. The legislative assembly of NCT of Delhi can make laws on all the matters of the State List and the Concurrent List.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **The 69th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1991** provided a special status to the Union Territory of Delhi, and redesignated it the National Capital Territory of Delhi and designated the administrator of Delhi as the lieutenant (lt.) governor. It created a legislative assembly and a council of ministers for Delhi. Previously, Delhi had a metropolitan council and an executive council.
- The strength of the assembly is fixed at 70 members, directly elected by the people. The elections are conducted by the election commission of India.
- **The assembly can make laws on all the matters of the State List and the Concurrent List except the three matters of the State List, that is, public order, police and land.** But, the laws of Parliament prevail over those made by the Assembly.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/10/delhis-decision-to-limit-health-services/>

82. Which of the following is the right bank tributary of the River Godavari?

- (a) Pranahita
- (b) Indravati
- (c) Purna
- (d) Manjira

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The Godavari is India's second longest river after the Ganga. Its source is in Triambakeshwar, Maharashtra.
- **Tributaries**
 - Left: Banganga, Kadva, Shivana, **Purna**, Kadam, **Pranahita**, **Indravati**, Taliperu, Sabari
 - Right: Nasardi, Darna, Pravara, Sindphana, **Manjira**, Manair, Kinnerasani

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/10/krishna-and-godavari-water-utilisation/>

83. Which of the following is the left bank tributary of the River Krishna?

- (a) Panchganga
- (b) Dudhaganga
- (c) Musi
- (d) Malaprabha

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The Krishna River is the fourth-biggest river in terms of water inflows and river basin area in India, after the Ganga, Godavari and Brahmaputra.
- The river's source is at Mahabaleshwar
- **Tributaries**
 - Left: Bhima, Dindi, Peddavagu, **Musi**, Paleru, Munneru
 - Right: Kudali (Niranjna) Venna, Koyna, **Panchganga**, **Dudhaganga**, **Ghataprabha**, **Malaprabha**, Tungabhadra

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/10/krishna-and-godavari-water-utilisation/>

84. Consider the following statements:

1. Ultraviolet (UV) light falls in the range of the EM spectrum between visible light and X-rays.
2. Ultraviolet (UV)-C rays have the longest wavelengths, followed by UV-B, and UV-A rays.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

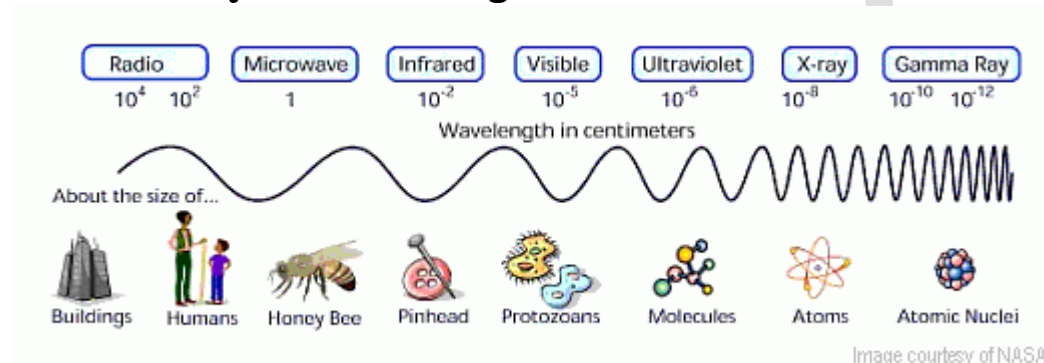


- (a) 1 Only
- (b) 2 Only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **UV radiation is the portion of the Electro Magnetic spectrum between X-rays and visible light.**



- **Key features:**
 - **UVA rays have the longest wavelengths**, followed by UVB, and UVC rays which have the shortest wavelengths.
 - While UVA and UVB rays are transmitted through the atmosphere, all UVC and some UVB rays are absorbed by the Earth's ozone layer. So, most of the UV rays you come in contact with are UVA with a small amount of UVB.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/10/does-using-uv-ray-mechanism-on-food-items-kill-the-coronavirus/>

85. Arrange the following locations in the direction of North to South:

1. Pusan
2. Pyongyang
3. Seoul
4. Inchon

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **North Korea** has cut off all inter-Korean communication lines with the South, including a hotline between the two nations' leaders.
- The North said this was the first in a series of actions, describing South Korea as "the enemy".



- This move was triggered by South Korean activists who sent anti-Pyongyang messages in balloons across the border.
- **Key facts:**
 - It is a country in East Asia constituting the northern part of the Korean Peninsula.
 - The country is bordered to the north by China and by Russia along the Amnok and Tumen rivers, and to the south by South Korea, with the heavily fortified Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) separating the two.



Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/10/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-10-june-2020/>

86. “Turant Customs”, sometimes is in the news, has been launched by:

- Central Board of direct Taxes (CBDT)
- RBI
- SEBI
- None of the above

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), not CBDT**, has launched its flagship programme Turant Customs, at Bengaluru and Chennai.



- Under this, Importers will now get their goods cleared from Customs after a faceless assessment is done remotely by the Customs officers located outside the port of import.
- Now, the goods imported at Chennai may be assessed by the Customs officers located at Bengaluru and vice versa, as assigned by the Customs' automated system.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/10/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-10-june-2020/>

87. Consider the following statements about Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (CPB).

1. It is the first international regulatory framework for safe transfer, handling and use of Living Modified Organisms (LMOs).
2. It was negotiated under the aegis of UNFCCC.
3. The Protocol establishes a Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) to facilitate information exchange with special attention to developing countries.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- The **Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (CPB)**, the first international regulatory framework for safe transfer, handling and use of **Living Modified Organisms (LMOs)** was negotiated under the aegis of the **Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)**. The protocol was adopted on 29th January 2000. The Protocol entered into force on 11 September 2003.
- The objective of the Protocol is to contribute to ensuring an adequate level of protection in the field of the safe transfer, handling and use of LMOs resulting from modern biotechnology that may have adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health, and specifically focusing on transboundary movements.
- The Protocol establishes a Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) to facilitate information exchange, and contains provisions on capacity building and financial resources, with special attention to developing countries and those without domestic regulatory systems.

Refer: <https://bch.cbd.int/protocol>



88. The International Consortium on Combatting Wildlife Crime (ICWC) is a collaboration between

1. CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species) Secretariat
2. TRAFFIC (The Wildlife Trade Monitoring Network)
3. INTERPOL
4. World Customs Organization
5. World Bank

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **ICWC is the collaborative effort of five inter-governmental organizations** working to bring coordinated support to the national wildlife law enforcement agencies and to the sub-regional and regional networks that, on a daily basis, act in defense of natural resources. **The ICWC partners are**
 - The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) Secretariat,
 - INTERPOL,
 - the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,
 - the World Bank and
 - the World Customs Organization.
- This powerful alliance was formally established in 2010 in St. Petersburg, Russia during the International Tiger Forum.
- ICCWC's mission is to strengthen criminal justice systems and provide coordinated support at national, regional and international level to combat wildlife and forest crime to ensure perpetrators of serious wildlife and forest crime will face a formidable and coordinated response.

Refer: <https://cites.org/eng/prog/iccwc.php>

89. Consider the following statements regarding Mangroves for the Future (MFF).

1. Mangroves for the Future (MFF) is a unique partner-led initiative to promote investment in coastal ecosystem conservation for sustainable development.
2. MFF conservation habitats includes all types of coastal ecosystem, such as coral reefs, estuaries, lagoons, sandy beaches, sea grasses and wetlands.



3. It is purely research body and doesn't offer any grants to support mangrove conservation initiatives.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Mangroves for the Future (MFF)** is a unique partner-led initiative to promote investment in coastal ecosystem conservation for sustainable development. Co-chaired by IUCN and UNDP, MFF provides a platform for collaboration among the many different agencies, sectors and countries which are addressing challenges to coastal ecosystem and livelihood issues.
- Mangroves are the flagship of the initiative, but MFF is inclusive of all types of coastal ecosystem, such as coral reefs, estuaries, lagoons, sandy beaches, sea grasses and wetlands.
- **The MFF grants facility offers small, medium and large grants to support initiatives** that provide practical, hands-on demonstrations of effective coastal management in action.

Refer: <https://www.iucn.org/regions/asia/our-work/regional-projects/mangroves-future-mff>

90. Which of the following are the Common characteristics of Invasive alien species.

- 1. Rapid reproduction and growth.
- 2. High dispersal ability
- 3. Phenotypic plasticity
- 4. Ability to survive in a wide range of environmental conditions.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Common characteristics of Invasive alien species** include rapid reproduction and growth, high dispersal ability, phenotypic plasticity (ability to adapt physiologically to new conditions), and ability to survive on various food types and in a wide range of environmental conditions. A good predictor of invasiveness is



whether a species has successfully or unsuccessfully invaded elsewhere.

Refer: <https://www.cbd.int/invasive/WhatarelAS.shtml>

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 11th -June-2020

91. Which of the following criteria used by the 15th Finance Commission for determining the share of states:

1. Income distance
2. Population in 2011
3. Forest and ecology
4. Command area development

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **The 15th Finance Commission used the following criteria while determining the share of states:**
 - 45% for the income distance.
 - 15% for the population in 2011



- 15% for the area
- 10% for forest and ecology
- 12.5% for demographic performance, and
- 2.5% for tax effort.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/11/what-is-finance-commission-grants-other-transfers/>

92. The Finance Commission of India is constituted by:

- (a) Act of Parliament
- (b) Union government
- (c) Lok Sabha (lower house)
- (d) President

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The Finance Commission is **constituted by the President under article 280 of the Constitution**, mainly to give its recommendations on distribution of tax revenues between the Union and the States and amongst the States themselves.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/11/what-is-finance-commission-grants-other-transfers/>

93. Which of the following is geographically closest to Nathu La (Sikkim)?

- (a) Siliguri
- (b) Darjeeling
- (c) Gangtok
- (d) Kalimpong

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The skirmishes and the standoff between Indian and Chinese troops at **Naku La in Sikkim** last month, in an area of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) has brought back the focus onto the historical Sikkim-Tibet Convention of 1890.
- Experts say, as per this convention, **Naku la belongs to India**. Besides, Prior to Sikkim's merger with India in 1975, China has officially accepted this demarcation.



- Nathu La is a mountain pass in the Himalayas.** It connects the Indian state of Sikkim with China's Tibet Autonomous Region. It is also one of the four officially agreed BPM (Border Personnel Meeting) points between the Indian Army and People's Liberation Army of China for regular consultations and interactions between the two armies, which helps in defusing stand-offs.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/11/sikkim-tibet-convention-of-1890/>

94. With reference to the Genetically Modified mustard (GM mustard) developed in India, consider the following statements :

- GM mustard has the genes of a soil bacterium that give the plant the property of pest-resistance to a wide variety of pests.



2. GM mustard has the genes that allow the plant cross-pollination and hybridization.
3. GM mustard has been developed jointly by the IARI and Punjab Agricultural University.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Stat1: **It is developed by using three genes viz., barnase, barstar and bar from *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* for hybrid seed production.**
- The barnase gene confers male sterility to a plant in which it is inserted and barstar gene restore the fertility to produce fertile hybrid plants and seeds.
- The third gene bar synthesizes an enzyme called PAT, which is responsible for tolerance to glufosinate in the plant. Glufosinate is a broad spectrum herbicide, which indiscriminately eliminates weeds and any plant that does not have the bar gene.
- Glufosinate herbicides contain the active ingredient phosphinothricin, which kills plants by blocking the enzyme responsible for nitrogen metabolism and for detoxifying ammonia, a by-product of plant metabolism.
- Stat2: **It has mainly two genes ('barnase' and 'barstar') that allow for cross-pollination and hybridisation in mustard, which is largely a self-pollinating plant because of its individual flowers containing both female and male reproductive organs.** Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- Stat3: **GM mustard was developed by scientists at Delhi University** and the project was part-funded by the Department of Biotechnology, a division of the Science Ministry.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/11/gm-seeds-the-debate-and-a-sowing-agitation/>

95. In India, the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) is the apex body that allows for commercial release of GM crops. It has been constituted under:
- (a) Department of Agricultural Research and Education
 - (b) Department of Biotechnology
 - (c) Department of Science and Technology
 - (d) None of the above



Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The **Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC)** is the apex body constituted in the Ministry of Environment and Forests **under 'Rules for Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Microorganisms/Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells 1989'**, under the **Environment Protection Act, 1986**.
- It approves activities involving large scale use of hazardous microorganisms and recombinants in research and industrial production from the environmental angle.
- The GEAC is also responsible for approval of proposals relating to release of genetically engineered organisms and products into the environment including experimental field trials (Biosafety Research Level trial-I and II known as BRL-I and BRL-II).
- The Rules of 1989 also define five competent authorities i.e. the Institutional Biosafety Committees (IBSC), Review Committee of Genetic Manipulation (RCGM), Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC), State Biotechnology Coordination Committee (SBCC) and District Level Committee (DLC) for handling of various aspects of the rules.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/11/gm-seeds-the-debate-and-a-sowing-agitation/>

96. Recently, 'Dipadih' archaeological site has been in news for sometimes, is renowned for:

- (a) Megalithic burial site.
- (b) Temple complex dating back to the 7th Century.
- (c) Famous bas relief ornamentation works of Chhattisgarh.
- (d) Ancient tribal system of education.

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Context:** **Ministry of Tourism** brings out the "Hidden Treasures of Chhattisgarh" through 30th webinar under **Dekho Apna Desh series**.
- **Places:**
 - **Karkabhat** – Megalithic burial site.
 - **Dipadih** – Temple complex dating back to the 7th Century.
 - **Others:**
 - **Ghotul** – It is both an ancient tribal system of education as well as the campus with its own system of hierarchs.



- **Sonabai**– Famous bas relief ornamentation works of Chhattisgarh got its roots when Sonabai made little toys for her son Daroga Ram to lull him to sleep.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/11/gm-seeds-the-debate-and-a-sowing-agitation/>

97. Arrange the following location's in the direction of West to East:

1. Daulat Beg Oldie
2. Kargil
3. Leh
4. Shyok

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **DBO is the northernmost corner of Indian territory in Ladakh, in the area better known in Army parlance as Sub-Sector North.**
- It has the world's highest airstrip, originally built during the 1962 war but abandoned until 2008, when the Indian Air Force (IAF) revived it as one of its many Advanced Landing Grounds (ALGs) along the LAC.
- DBO is less than 10 km west of the LAC at Aksai Chin.
- To the west of DBO is the region where China abuts Pakistan in the Gilgit-Baltistan area, once a part of the erstwhile Kashmir principality.



Refer: facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/11/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-11-june-2020/>

98. 'Operation Desert Chase', sometimes mentioned in the news, is related to:

- (a) Drug trafficking
- (b) Cross border terrorism
- (c) Fitness program run by Rajasthan police
- (d) Anti-espionage

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- It was the name of **the Anti-espionage operation started by Military Intelligence (MI) in early 2019**. It successfully culminated in June 2020 with the arrest of two men. Both were arrested under relevant sections of **Official Secrets Act, 1923**.
- **Context:**
- Under this operation, Rajasthan Police arrested two civil defence employees in Jaipur based on Military Intelligence (MI) inputs that they had been passing on sensitive information to Pakistan's spy agency ISI.



Refer: facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/11/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-11-june-2020/>

99. Which of the following **pairs (Hydroelectric project/Dam: River)** is/are incorrectly matched?

- (a) Athirappilly hydroelectric project: Chalakudy River
- (b) MullaPeriyar Dam: Periyar River
- (c) Tehri Dam: Narmada River
- (d) Bhakra Dam: Sutlej River

Ans: (c)

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

- **Sardar Sarovar Dam:** It is largest Dam in India build on Narmada River having capacity to generate 1450 MW of power. It is multipurpose project is supposed to help drought prone Saurashtra and Kutch Region of Gujrat by providing supply of water for drinking and irrigation.
- **MullaPeriyar Dam:** This dam is situated on Periyar River in Kerala, but is under control of Tamil Nadu government.
- **Tehri Dam:** It is 2.4 GW dam located in Garhwal district of Uttarakhand and is one the tallest dam in the world (260.5 meters). **It is on Bhagirathi river operational since 2006.** Project was conceived in 1970's it resulted in submergence of Old Tehri town whose population was shifted to new town. As it is located on a highly seismic zone, there are apprehensions about any earthquake and its effect.
- **Bhakra Dam:** This Dam is second tallest dam in India at 225 meters (next to Tehri) and it was 1st big dam of independent India. It was remarked by Pt. Nehru as 'New temple of Resurgent India'. It is concrete gravity dam on the **Sutlej River** in Bilaspur, Himachal Pradesh in northern India. The dam forms the Gobind Sagar reservoir.

Refer: facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/11/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-11-june-2020/>

100. Consider the following statements about Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB):

1. It was constituted under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
2. The Bharat Stage (BS) standards and the timeline for implementation are set by the Central Pollution Control Board.

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:

- Stat1: Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is a statutory organisation which was constituted in September, 1974 under the **Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.**
 - It was entrusted with the powers and functions under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.
 - It serves as a field formation and also provides technical services to the Ministry of Environment and Forests of the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- Stat2: The **Bharat Stage (BS) standards** and the timeline for implementation are set by the **Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)** under the **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.**

Refer: facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/11/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-11-june-2020/>

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 12th -June-2020

101. Consider the following statements:

1. As per the revenue fee sharing model, Telecom operators are required to pay only spectrum charges to the Central Government.
2. According to DoT, Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) comprises all revenue earned by a telecom company.

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:

- **To provide relief from the steep fixed license fee, the government in 1999 gave an option to the licensees to migrate to the revenue sharing fee model.** Under this, mobile telephone operators were required to share a percentage of their AGR with the government as **annual license fee (LF) and spectrum usage charges (SUC).**
- What is AGR?



- Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) is the usage and licensing fee that telecom operators are charged by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT). It **is divided into spectrum usage charges and licensing fees**, pegged between 3-5 percent and 8 percent respectively.
- How is it calculated and what's the contention?
 - **As per DoT, the charges are calculated based on all revenues earned by a telco** – including non-telecom related sources such as deposit interests and asset sales. Telcos, on their part, insist that AGR should comprise only the revenues generated from telecom services.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/12/adjusted-gross-revenue-agr-issue-2/>

102. In India, which of the following authority has been empowered to set up tribunals to decide whether a person staying illegally in India is a foreigner or not?

- (a) Central Government
- (b) State Government
- (c) High Court
- (d) District Magistrates

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has amended the **Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964**, and has empowered **district magistrates in all States and Union Territories** to set up tribunals (quasi-judicial bodies) to decide whether a person staying illegally in India is a foreigner or not.
- **Earlier, the powers to constitute tribunals were vested only with the Centre.**
- Typically, the tribunals there have seen two kinds of cases: those concerning persons against whom a reference has been made by the border police and those whose names in the electoral roll has a “D”, or “doubtful”, marked against them.
- Who can approach?
 - The amended order (Foreigners (Tribunal) Order, 2019) also empowers individuals to approach the Tribunals. Earlier, only the State administration could move the Tribunal against a suspect.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/12/a-declared-foreigner-and-foreigners-tribunal/>

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

1. It is the court of last resort for prosecution of genocide and crimes against humanity.
2. Courts expenses are funded by United Nations.

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 International Criminal Court (ICC)**, located in The Hague, is the court of last resort for prosecution of genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity.
- It is the first permanent, treaty based, international criminal court established to help end impunity for the perpetrators of the most serious crimes of concern to the international community.
- Its founding treaty, **the Rome Statute**, entered into force on July 1, 2002.
- **Funding:** Although the Court's expenses are funded primarily by States Parties, it also receives voluntary contributions from governments, international organisations, individuals, corporations and other entities.
- **Composition and voting power:**
- The Court's management oversight and legislative body, the Assembly of States Parties, consists of one representative from each state party.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/12/international-criminal-court-icc-3/>

104. With reference to the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. IUCN is an organ of the United Nations and CITES is an international agreement between governments.
2. IUCN runs thousands of field projects around the world to better manage natural environments.
3. CITES is legally binding on the States that have joined it, but this Convention does not take the place of national laws.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **IUCN is a voluntary organization, not an agency of United Nations.** Some facts about IUCN:
 - Founded in 1948 as the world's first global environmental organisation
 - Today the largest professional global conservation network



- A leading authority on the environment and sustainable development
- More than 1,200 member organizations including 200+ government and 900+ non-government organizations
- A neutral forum for governments, NGOs, scientists, business and local communities to find practical solutions to conservation and development challenges
- Thousands of field projects and activities around the world
- **CITES was drafted as a result of a resolution adopted in 1963 at a meeting of members of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).** States (countries) adhere voluntarily to the agreement.
 - States that have agreed to be bound by the Convention ('joined' CITES) are known as Parties.
 - **Although CITES is legally binding on the Parties – in other words they have to implement the Convention – it does not take the place of national laws.** Rather it provides a framework to be respected by each Party, which has to adopt its own domestic legislation to ensure that CITES is implemented at the national level.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/12/new-guidelines-for-import-of-exotic-species/>

105. According to the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, which of the following animals cannot be hunted by any person except under some provisions provided by law?

1. Gharial
2. Indian wild ass
3. Wild buffalo

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- All of these are protected scheduled animals under the Wildlife Act.
- http://legislative.gov.in/sites/default/files/A1972-53_0.pdf

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/12/new-guidelines-for-import-of-exotic-species/>

106. "This animal is the symbol of Mahavira, the 24th and last Tirthankara in Jainism. In Buddhist culture, this was depicted as the protector of Dharma. The emblem of the Hoysala Empire in Medieval India, depicting Sala fighting with this." It is

- (a) Tiger
- (b) Indian Bison



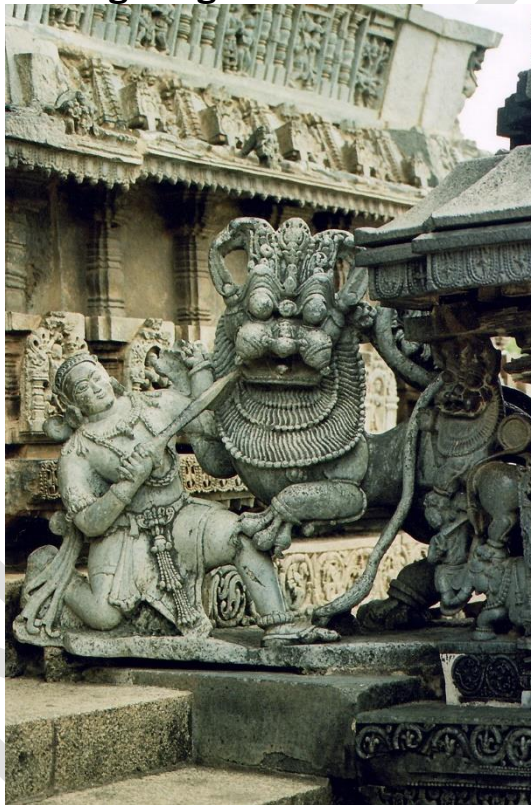
(c) Elephant

(d) Lion

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The **Asiatic lion is a Panthera leo leo** population in India. Its current range is restricted to the Gir National Park and environs in the Indian state of Gujarat.
- Since ancient times, lion statues adorned palaces and temples and other important buildings in India, and **in Buddhist culture, the lion was depicted as the protector of Dharma**. In Hinduism lions are associated with Gods and Goddesses
- **The lion is the symbol of Mahavira**, the 24th and last Tirthankara in Jainism.
- In the Burmese and Sinhalese animal and planetary zodiac, the lion is the third animal zodiac of the Burmese and the sixth animal zodiac of the Sinhalese people of Sri Lanka
- **Emblem of the Hoysala Empire in Medieval India, depicting Sala fighting a lion**



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/12/census-of-asiatic-lion/>

107. Consider the following statements:

1. Asiatic lion is naturally found in India only.
2. Indian bison is naturally found in India only.
3. Double humped camel naturally found in India only.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?



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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- Stat1: The Asiatic lion's range is restricted to the Gir National Park and environs in the Indian state of Gujarat.
- Stat2: **The gaur, Bos gaurus, also called the Indian bison**, is one of the largest extant bovines. It is **native to South and Southeast Asia** and has been listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List since 1986.
- Stat3: The **Bactrian camel (Camelus bactrianus)** is a large, even-toed ungulate **native to the steppes of Central Asia**.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/12/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-12-june-2020/>

108. "HeiQ Viroblock", sometimes mentioned in the news recently, is related to:

- (a) Technical textile
- (b) Vaccine
- (c) Chines App
- (d) None of the above

Ans: (d)

Explanation: What is HeiQ Viroblock?

- **HeiQ Viroblock NPJ03** is an **intelligent Swiss textile technology** that is **added to the fabric during the final stage of the textile manufacturing process**. It is a special combination of **advanced silver and vesicle technology**.
- It has proven effective against SARS-CoV-2, the COVID-19 causing virus
- Suitable for all fiber types, from medical nonwovens (e.g. face masks) to fabrics for clothing and home textiles.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/12/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-12-june-2020/>

109. Consider the following statements regarding Economic capital framework.

1. Economic capital framework refers to sources where RBI earns its income.
2. RBI had constituted a panel on economic capital framework headed by Sunil Mehta.
3. RBI earns income from investment in foreign currency assets.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

- (a) 2 only



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

Ans: (b)

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

- **Economic capital framework** refers to the risk capital required by the central bank while taking into account different risks. The economic capital framework reflects the capital that an institution requires or needs to hold as a counter against unforeseen risks or events or losses in the future.
- RBI had constituted a panel on economic capital framework. It was headed by **Ex-RBI governor Bimal Jalan**.
- The expert panel on RBI's economic capital framework was formed to address the issue of RBI reserves— one of the sticking points between the central bank and the government.

1) THE RBI'S RESERVES			2) HOW DOES RBI BUILD ITS RESERVES?	
Various Funds (₹ lakh crore)			1 RBI earns income from:	2 Earnings retained after giving dividends to govt are parked in reserves
	FY17	FY18	1] Interest on government bonds held for conducting open market operations	3 Revaluation of foreign assets and gold goes to revaluation reserves
Contingency fund	2.28	2.32	2] Fees from government's market borrowing programme	
Currency and gold revaluation account	5.3	6.92	3] Income from investment in foreign currency assets	
Asset development fund	0.23	0.23		
Investment revaluation account-rupee	0.57	0.13		
TOTAL	8.38	9.6		

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2019/09/03/rstv-the-big-picture-rbis-surplus-fund/>

110. RBI's Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) Framework is applicable to:

1. Public Sector Banks
2. Private Sector Banks
3. Co-operative Banks
4. Non-banking financial companies (NBFCs)

Select the correct answer code:

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- The Reserve Bank of India put several banks under **prompt corrective action or PCA** for not maintaining a desirable level of capital which restricts their business activity. Besides capital, PCA



is also triggered if bad loans are higher than a minimum threshold and return on assets is lower than the threshold.

- **The PCA framework is applicable only to commercial banks and not extended to cooperative banks and non-banking financial companies (NBFCs).**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2019/02/27/pca-framework/>

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 13th -June-2020

111. Consider the following statements:

1. National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) is an autonomous body funded by University Grants Commission (UGC).
2. It was established in response to recommendations of National Policy in Education (1986).
3. It publishes 'National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF)' ranking of higher education Institutions (HEIs) in India.

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: (a)

Explanation:

- The **National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC)** is an organisation that **assesses and accredits higher education Institutions (HEIs)** in India.
 - It is an **autonomous body funded by University Grants Commission** of Government of India headquartered in Bangalore.
 - **NAAC was established in 1994 in response to recommendations of National Policy in Education (1986).** This policy was to "address the issues of deterioration in quality of education", and the Programme of Action (POA-1992) laid out strategic plans for the policies including the establishment of an independent national accreditation body. Consequently, the NAAC was established in 1994 with its headquarters at Bengaluru.



- **The National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) is a methodology adopted by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India, to rank institutions of higher education in India.** The Framework was approved by the MHRD and launched by Minister of Human Resource Development on 29 September 2015.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/13/nirf-ranking-2020-released/>

112. A universal basic income is, like many rights, promotes which of the following basic values of the society?

1. Liberty
2. All individuals as free and equal
3. Anti-paternalism

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **the conceptual/philosophical case for UBI:**

- **Source:** Universal Basic Income is a radical and compelling paradigm shift in thinking about both social justice and a productive economy. It could be to the twenty first century what civil and political rights were to the twentieth. It is premised on the idea that a just society needs to guarantee to each individual a minimum income which they can count on, and which provides the necessary material foundation for a life with access to basic goods and a life of dignity. A universal basic income is, like many rights, unconditional and universal: it requires that every person should have a right to a basic income to cover their needs, just by virtue of being citizens. The time has come to think of UBI for a number of reasons:
 - **Social Justice:** UBI is, first and foremost, a test of a just and non-exploitative society. From Tom Paine to John Rawls, nearly every theory of justice has argued that a society that fails to guarantee a decent minimum income to all citizens will fail the test of justice. It should be evident to anyone that no society can be just or stable if it does not give all members of the society a stake.
 - **A Universal Basic Income promotes many of the basic values of a society which respects all individuals as free and equal.** It promotes **liberty because it is anti-paternalistic**, opens up the possibility of flexibility in labour markets. It **promotes equality by reducing poverty**. It promotes efficiency by reducing waste in government transfers. And it could, under some circumstances, even promote greater productivity. It is not an accident that



Universal Basic Income has been embraced both by thinkers of the Left and of the Right.

- **Poverty Reduction:** Conditional on the presence of a well-functioning financial system, a Universal Basic Income may simply be the fastest way of reducing poverty. UBI is also, paradoxically, more feasible in a country like India, where it can be pegged at relatively low levels of income but still yield immense welfare gains.
- **Agency:** The poor in India have been treated as objects of government policy. Our current welfare system, even when well intentioned, inflicts an indignity upon the poor by assuming that they cannot take economic decisions relevant to their lives. An unconditional cash transfer treats them as agents, not subjects. A UBI is also practically useful. The circumstances that keep individuals trapped in poverty are varied; the risks they face and the shocks they face also vary. The state is not in the best position to determine which risks should be mitigated and how priorities are to be set. UBI liberates citizens from paternalistic and clientelistic relationships with the state. By taking the individual and not the household as the unit of beneficiary, UBI can also enhance agency, especially of women within households.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/13/universal-basic-income-2/>

113. Consider the following statements:

1. Sahakar Mitra scheme is an initiative by Khadi and Village Industries Commission.
2. Under the programme, each intern will get financial support over a 4 months internship period.

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: **Sahakar Mitra scheme:**

- It is an initiative by **National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC)**
- It would also provide an opportunity to professionals from academic institutions to develop leadership and entrepreneurial roles through cooperatives as Farmers Producers Organizations (FPO).
- Under the programme, each intern will get financial support over a 4 months internship period.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/13/sahakar-mitra-scheme-launched/>



114. Consider the following statements about Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana:

1. It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme launched in 2015.
 2. All the States and Union Territories including North Eastern States are covered under the programme.
 3. National Executive Committee (NEC) under the chairmanship of Prime Minister will oversee the programme implementation at national level.
- 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:

- **PMKSY is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme launched in 2015.**
- **Krishi Sinchayee Yojana** with an outlay of Rs.50,000 crores for a period of 5 years (2015-16 to 2019-20) is to achieve convergence of investments in irrigation at the field level.
- **PMKSY has been formulated amalgamating ongoing schemes** viz. Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) of Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation; Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) of Department of Land Resources; and On Farm Water Management (OFWM) component of National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation.
- PMKSY is to be implemented in an area development approach, adopting decentralized state level planning and projectised execution, allowing the states to draw their irrigation development plans based on district/blocks plans with a horizon of 5 to 7 years. States can take up projects based on the District/State Irrigation Plan.
- **All the States and Union Territories including North Eastern States are covered under the programme.**
- The **National Steering Committee (NSC)** of PMKSY under the chairmanship of Hon'ble **Prime Minister**, will provide policy direction to programme framework and a **National Executive Committee (NEC)** under the chairmanship of **Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog** will oversee the programme implementation at national level.
- Provision has been made under PMKSY during 2015-16 for carrying out extension activities in the field with special focus on water harvesting, water management and crop alignment for farmers and grass root level field functionaries.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/13/pradhan-mantri-krishi-sinchayee-yojana/>



115. 'IFLOWS warning system', sometimes mentioned in the news, is related to:

- (a) Air pollution
- (b) Oil spills
- (c) Food adulteration
- (d) Floods

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **It is an Integrated Flood Warning System and is a joint initiative between the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) and Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC).**
- The warning system will be able to relay alerts of possible flood-prone areas anywhere between six to 72 hours in advance.
- The system can provide all information regarding possible flood-prone areas, likely height the floodwater could attain, location-wise problem areas across all 24 wards and calculate the vulnerability and risk of elements exposed to flood.
- The primary source for the system is the amount of rainfall, but with Mumbai being a coastal city, the system also factors in tidal waves and storm tides for its flood assessments.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/13/iflows-mumbai/>

116. 'Lonar lake' is a famous geo-heritage site, located in:

- (a) Odisha
- (b) Tamil Nadu
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) Maharashtra

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Lonar crater lake** was identified as **a unique geographical site by a British officer named CJE Alexander in 1823.**
- It is an ancient circular lake **created by a meteorite strike in Maharashtra.**
- Lonar crater became **a geo-heritage site in 1979.**
- It is relatively young geologically, at just 50,000 years old.
- Lonar Lake lies within **the only known extraterrestrial impact crater found within the great Deccan Traps**, a huge basaltic formation in India (Source:Wikipedia)

Refer: facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/13/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-13-june-2020/>

117. Consider the following statements regarding Nitrogen pollution.

1. Since Nitrates cannot penetrate deep into the soil they pollute only surface water and not groundwater.
2. Nitrogen dioxide is a greenhouse gas.
3. Agriculture remains the largest contributor to nitrogen emissions.



Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Ans: (a)

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

- Nitrates not only affect surface water but also pollute groundwater sources.
- Nitrous oxide (N₂O) gas should not be confused with nitric oxide (NO) or nitrogen dioxide (NO₂). Neither nitric oxide nor nitrogen dioxide are greenhouse gases. Nitrous oxide is a greenhouse gas. Nitrogen particles make up the largest fraction of PM_{2.5}, the class of pollutants closely linked to cardiovascular and respiratory illness.
- Though agriculture remains the largest contributor to nitrogen emissions, the non-agricultural emissions of nitrogen oxides and nitrous oxide are growing rapidly, with sewage and fossil-fuel burning — for power, transport and industry — leading the trend.

Refer: <https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/pollution/annual-un-report-recognises-the-threats-posed-by-nitrogen-pollution-63469>

118. Consider the following statements regarding National Tiger Conservation Authority.

1. The National Tiger Conservation Authority has been fulfilling its mandate within the ambit of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 for strengthening tiger conservation in the country.
2. It is headed by the Prime Minister of India.
3. It accords approval for declaring new Tiger Reserves.

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 National Tiger Conservation Authority is a statutory body under the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.**
- The National Tiger Conservation Authority has been fulfilling its mandate within the ambit of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 for strengthening tiger conservation in the country by retaining an oversight through advisories/normative guidelines, based on appraisal of tiger status, ongoing conservation initiatives and recommendations of specially constituted Committees.



- **Set up under the Chairmanship of the Minister for Environment and Forests.**
- **Functions of NTCA are as follows:**
 - Ensuring normative standards in tiger reserve management.
 - Preparation of reserve specific tiger conservation plan.
 - Laying down annual/ audit report before Parliament.
 - Instituting State level Steering Committees under the Chairmanship of Chief Minister and establishment of Tiger Conservation Foundation.
 - According approval for declaring new Tiger Reserves.

Refer: <https://projecttiger.nic.in/>

119. Many coronavirus patients have died of sepsis — caused by the body's immune system overreacting in response to an infection. Sepsis can be triggered by a variety of pathogens that includes

1. Viruses
2. Bacteria
3. Fungi

Select the correct answer code:

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Many coronavirus patients have died of sepsis — when the body's immune system goes into overdrive.
- How does sepsis occur, what are the warning signs and how is it treated?
- **Sepsis is a life-threatening organ dysfunction caused by the body's immune system overreacting in response to an infection. This overactive, toxic response can lead to tissue damage, multiple organ failure and death.**
- How does sepsis occur and how do I recognize it?
 - **Viruses, bacteria, fungi or parasites — sepsis can be triggered by a variety of pathogens.** The causes of sepsis are usually pneumonia, wound infections, urinary tract infections or infections in the abdominal cavity.
 - In addition to the known seasonal influenza viruses, other viruses that are highly infectious, such as coronaviruses, Ebola and yellow fever viruses, dengue, swine flu or bird flu viruses can also cause sepsis.



- In addition to the typical signs of infection, there are several stand out symptoms that usually indicate possible sepsis — for example, a drop in blood pressure with a simultaneous rise in heart rate, fever, rapid, heavy breathing, an unusually strong feeling of illness and sudden confusion.

Refer: <https://www.cdc.gov/sepsis/what-is-sepsis.html>

120. Consider the following statements regarding Kallakkadal.

1. Kallakkadal are flash-flood events that take place without any noticeable advance change in local winds in the coastal environment.
2. They occur along the Indian coast, particularly the west coast.
3. Tsunami and Kallakkadal are similar types of waves with similar causes or mechanisms.

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:

- Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) launched **Swell Surge Forecast System**, which will provide forewarnings for the coastal population of India's vast shoreline, which experiences a slew of damages caused by the swell waves that actually originate from the distant southern Indian Ocean.
- **Swell Surge Forecast System:** Swell surge forecast system is an innovative system designed for the prediction of Kallakkadal/Swell Surge that occurs along the Indian coast, particularly the west coast.
- Kallakkadal/Swell surge are flash-flood events that take place without any noticeable advance change in local winds or any other apparent signature in the coastal environment. Hence the local population remains totally unaware of these flooding events until they actually occur. Such events are intermittent throughout the year. Kallakkadal is a colloquial term used by Kerala fishermen to refer to the freaky flooding episodes and in 2012 UNESCO formally accepted this term for scientific use.
- During Kallakkadal events, the sea surges into the land and inundates vast areas. These events have attracted attention especially after the 2004 Tsunami in the Indian Ocean, since most people mistake Kallakkadal to be Tsunamis. Tsunami and Kallakkadal/Swell surge are two different types of waves with entirely separate causes or mechanisms. Kallakkadal are caused by meteorological conditions in the Southern Ocean, south of 30°S.



A study by INCOIS scientists has revealed that specific meteorological conditions in the Southern Indian Ocean support the generation of long period swells. These swells once generated, travel northward and reach the Indian coasts in 3-5 days time, creating havoc in the coastal areas. The system will now predict Kallakkadal and warnings will be given to concerned authorities at least 2-3 days in advance, which will help the local authorities for contingency plans and to reduce damage.

Refer: https://incois.gov.in/documents/Remya_JGR.pdf

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 15th -June-2020

121. 'Raja Parba festival' is celebrated in which of the following state?

- (a) Karnataka
- (b) Odisha
- (c) Goa
- (d) Kerala

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- The festival is being **celebrated in Odisha**.
- **Why and when is it celebrated?**
- This is a three-day-long festival dedicated to **Mother Earth (Bhuma Devi) and womanhood at large**.
- The festivities **begin a day before Mithuna Sankranti** and conclude two days after that.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/15/raja-parba-festival-of-odisha/>

122. Consider the following statements about Amoebiasis:

1. It is a bacterial infection
2. It spreads through drinking or eating uncooked food

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: **What is Amoebiasis or amoebic dysentery?**



- It is a **parasitic infection** of the colon with the amoeba **Entamoeba histolytica**.
- According to WHO, **Entamoeba histolytica** is **the third-leading cause of morbidity and mortality** due to parasitic disease in humans.
- This protozoan is **anaerobic or micro-aerophilic** in nature such that it cannot survive high concentrations of oxygen.
- However, **during infection, it faces a high surge of oxygen inside the human body**. The organism synthesizes large amounts of **cysteine to counter oxidative stress**.
- **Spread of the disease:**
- It **spreads through drinking or eating uncooked food**, such as fruit, that may have been washed in contaminated local water.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/15/amoebiasis-or-amoebic-dysentery/>

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

<i>Places in news</i>	<i>State/UT</i>
1. Namkha Chu	Ladakh
2. Kaurik	Himachal Pradesh
3. Barahoti	Uttarakhand

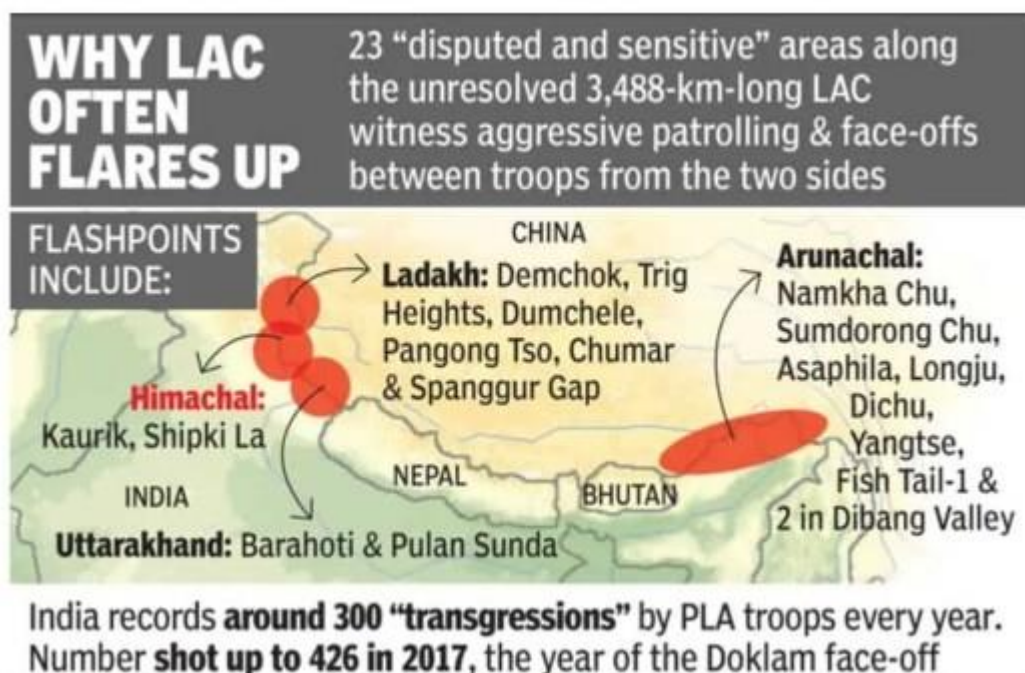
Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Recently, there has been an increased tension in the India-China relations, due to the Chinese transgressions into Indian territory, across the disputed Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Ladakh. Talks are on at various levels to diffuse the situation.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/15/scrapping-of-article-370-and-lac-tensions/>

124. Consider the following statements about Indian Ocean Commission:

1. It is an intergovernmental organization
2. India is a founding member of IOC
3. Recently, France became the first country to deploy a Liaison Officer at IOC

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **About Indian Ocean Commission:**

- Founded in **1982**, the **IOC is an intergovernmental organisation comprising five small-island states in the Western Indian Ocean:** the Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Réunion (a French department), and Seychelles.
- It was **institutionalized** in 1984 by **the Victoria Agreement in Seychelles.**
- Following a request from New Delhi, **the IOC granted observer status to India on March 6 at the Commission’s 34th Council of Ministers.**
- In 2012, **the IOC was one of the four regional organisations to launch the MASE Programme** — the European Union-funded programme to promote Maritime Security in Eastern and Southern Africa and Indian Ocean.



- The Commission has a **Secretariat which is located in Mauritius.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/15/naval-liaisons-at-rmifc-and-emasoh/>

125. Consider the following statements:

1. Sharavati River originates and flows entirely within the state of Karnataka.
2. Famous Jog Falls are formed by Sharavati River.
3. It is one of the few westward flowing rivers of India.

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 Karnataka state government is planning to establish a monkey park on the uninhabited islands in the **Sharavathi backwaters region.**
- **Sharavati is a river** which originates and flows entirely within the state of Karnataka in India.
- It is one of the few **westward flowing rivers** of India and a major part of the river basin lies in the Western Ghats. The **famous Jog Falls**, located about 24 km from Sagara, are formed by this river. The river itself and the region around it are rich in biodiversity and are home to many rare species of flora and fauna.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/15/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-15-june-2020/>

126. Recently, which of the following authority has launched a Robotic 'CAPTAIN ARJUN' to intensify the screening and surveillance?

- (a) ITBP
- (b) BSF
- (c) RPF
- (d) CISF

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Railway Protection Force**, Pune, under the Central Railways, has launched a **Robotic 'CAPTAIN ARJUN'** to intensify the screening and surveillance.
- The robot will screen passengers while they board trains and keep a watch on anti-social elements.
- It is equipped with a motion sensor, one PTZ camera and one Dome Camera. The Cameras use Artificial Intelligence algorithms to track suspicious and antisocial activity.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/15/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-15-june-2020/>



127. “PK Mohanty panel constituted by RBI”, sometimes mentioned in the news, is setup to review:

- (a) Non-performing assets
- (b) Corporate social responsibility
- (c) Economic capital framework
- (d) Ownership of private sector banks

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Constituted by **RBI**.
- To **review guidelines of ownership of private sector banks**.
- **Terms of reference:**
- examine the existing regulation and guidelines on ownership of private sector banks.
- suggest appropriate norms to address the issue of concentration of control and ownership of banks.
- review the eligibility criteria of the individuals to apply for banking license.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/15/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-15-june-2020/>

128. ‘Albinism’, sometimes mentioned in the news, it is a/an/the:

- (a) Egg fertilization technique
- (b) Some kind of disease in bats
- (c) Rare disease
- (d) Famous medical practice

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Observed every year on **June 13** to highlight the rights of those born with albinism and increase awareness of the genetic condition.
- Theme this year: **‘Made To Shine’**.
- **Albinism** — a rare disease, according to the National Institutes of Health — is characterised by **a lack of melanin pigment in skin, hair and eyes**. Those with albinism are vulnerable to sun exposure, something that increases chances of skin cancer and severe visual impairment.
- Albinism is **also widespread among animals** as well and is caused by the absence of melanin in their bodies.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/15/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-15-june-2020/>

129. Consider the following statements regarding Coal imports to India.

1. Coal is among the top five commodities imported by India.
2. India Imports only thermal coal and is self-sufficient with the domestic production of the coking coal.



Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- India's thermal coal imports rose 12.6% to nearly 200 million tonnes in 2019.
- Coal is among the top five commodities imported by India, the world's largest consumer, importer and producer of the fuel.
- Imports of thermal coal — mainly used for power generation — jumped 12.6% to 197.84 million tonnes in 2019. However, imports of coking coal — used mainly in the manufacturing of steel — fell marginally.
- Indonesia accounted for nearly 60% of India's thermal coal imports in the April-December period, government data showed, while South Africa accounted for 22% and Russia and Australia accounting for over 5% each.
- Coal imports grew largely due to lower production by Coal India Ltd., whose output fell for five consecutive months ended November due to the highest annual rainfall in 25 years and frequent outages including strikes by workers and locals.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/01/13/insights-into-editorial-mining-deep-on-cabinet-easing-mining-laws/>

130. Revised Kisan Credit Card Scheme provides adequate and timely credit to the farmer for which of the following needs

1. Post-harvest expenses
2. Consumption requirements of farmer household
3. Investment credit requirement for agriculture and allied activities
4. Produce Marketing loan

Select the correct answer code:

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The scheme aims at providing adequate and timely credit for the comprehensive credit requirements of
- farmers under single window for their cultivation and other needs as indicated below:
- To meet the short term credit requirements for cultivation of crops



- Post harvest expenses
- Produce Marketing loan
- Consumption requirements of farmer household
- Working capital for maintenance of farm assets, activities allied to agriculture, like dairy animals, inland fishery and also working capital required for floriculture, horticulture etc.
- Investment credit requirement for agriculture and allied activities like pump sets, sprayers, dairy animals, floriculture, horticulture etc

Refer: <https://www.financialexpress.com/money/kisan-credit-card-farmers-can-get-up-to-rs-3-lakh-loan-at-4-percent-interest/1884839/>



RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 16th -June-2020

131. Consider the following statements:

1. Yakshagana is a traditional theatre form of Karnataka.
2. 'Talamaddale' is a variant of Yakshagana theatre.
3. Maddale are the only musical instruments used in the performance.

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:

- **Yakshagana** is a traditional theatre form of **Karnataka**.
- It is a **temple art** form that depicts mythological stories and Puranas.



- It is performed with massive headgears, elaborate facial make-up and vibrant costumes and ornaments.
- Usually recited in Kannada, it is also performed in Malayalam as well as Tulu (the dialect of south Karnataka).
- **It is performed with percussion instruments like chenda, maddalam, jagatta or chengila (cymbals) and chakratala or elathalam (small cymbals).**
- **Talamaddale** is an ancient form of performance dialogue or debate performance in Southern India in the Karavali and Malnad regions of Karnataka and Kerala.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/16/150546/>

132. Which of the following agencies would be eligible to implement the ADIP Scheme on behalf of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment?

1. Societies registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860
2. District Rural Development Agencies
3. Nehru Yuvak Kendras
4. ALIMCO

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation: The following agencies would be eligible to implement the ADIP Scheme on behalf of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, subject to fulfillment of laid down terms and conditions:

- **Societies, registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 and their branches, if any, separately.**
- Registered charitable trusts
- **District Rural Development Agencies**, Indian Red Cross Societies and other Autonomous Bodies headed by District Collector/Chief Executive Officer/District Development Officer of Zilla Parishad.
- National/Apex Institutes including **ALIMCO** functioning under administrative control of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment/Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- State Handicapped Development Corporations.
- Local Bodies- Zilla Parishad, Municipalities, District Autonomous Development Councils and Panchayats.
- Hospitals registered as separate entity, as recommended by state/central government
- **Nehru Yuvak Kendras.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/16/assistance-to-disabled-persons-for-purchasing-fitting-of-aids-appliances-adip-scheme-2/>

133. Consider the following statements:



1. SIPRI is an International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) funded autonomous organization.
2. As per its latest report, India's nuclear arsenal went up from 1340 in 2019 to 1500 in 2020.

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: **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) established in 1966** is an independent international institute dedicated to research into conflict, armaments, arms control and disarmament.
- **SIPRI receives an annual grant from the Swedish Government which covers about 45% of SIPRI's annual budget. SIPRI also relies on the financial support of other organizations in order to carry out its research programme.**
- Stat2: as per latest report, India's nuclear arsenal went up from 130-140 in 2019 to 150 in 2020.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/16/sipri-report-on-india-china-nuclear-weapons/>

134. Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI) is an international initiative to guide the responsible development and use of AI, its secretariat is to be hosted by:

- (a) International Telecommunications Union
- (b) European Coordinating Committee for Artificial Intelligence
- (c) International Society for Applied AI
- (d) Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- India joins **Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI)** as a founding member to support the responsible and human-centric development and use of AI.
- It is an international and multi-stakeholder initiative to guide the responsible development and use of AI, grounded in human rights, inclusion, diversity, innovation, and economic growth.
- This is also a first initiative of its type.
- **GPAI will be supported by a Secretariat, to be hosted by Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in Paris**, as well as by two Centers of Expertise- one each in Montreal and Paris.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/16/global-partnership-on-artificial-intelligence-gpai/>



135. Consider the following statements:

1. Indian Gas Exchange (IGX) is the first nationwide online delivery-based gas trading platform.
2. It is incorporated as a wholly owned subsidiary of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited.

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:

- **Indian Gas Exchange (IGX)** is the first nationwide online delivery-based gas trading platform.
- IGX will be a delivery-based trading platform for delivery of natural Gas.
- **Incorporated as a wholly owned subsidiary of the IEX – India's energy market platform.**
- The platform is fully automated with web-based interface to provide seamless trading experience to the customers.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/16/indian-gas-exchange-launched-in-e-ceremony/>

136. Consider the following statements:

1. Natural gas primarily consists of methane
2. It is a non-renewable hydrocarbon
3. It can be used in place of coal

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:

- **Stat1: Natural gas is a naturally occurring hydrocarbon gas mixture consisting primarily of methane**, but commonly including varying amounts of other higher alkanes, and sometimes a small percentage of carbon dioxide, nitrogen, hydrogen sulfide, or helium. It is formed when layers of decomposing plant and animal matter are exposed to intense heat and pressure under the surface of the Earth over millions of years.
- **Stat2: Natural gas is a non-renewable hydrocarbon used as a source of energy for heating, cooking, and electricity generation.** It is also used as a fuel for vehicles and as a chemical



feedstock in the manufacture of plastics and other commercially important organic chemicals.

- Stat3: Natural gas has an effect on climate change; it is a greenhouse gas itself, and creates carbon dioxide during oxidation. **Natural gas can be used in place of coal, for example, to generate electricity, which may lower net carbon dioxide emissions in absence of carbon capture.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/16/indian-gas-exchange-launched-in-ceremony/>

137. 'Malathion', recently seen in news, it is:

- Anti-viral drug
- Pesticide used in agriculture
- New variety of maize produced from genetic engineering
- None of the above

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Malathion'**: It is a **pesticide** that is widely used in agriculture, residential landscaping, public recreation areas, and in public health pest control programs such as mosquito eradication.
- Why in News?
 - HIL India Ltd. supplies 25 MT Malathion 95% ULV Insecticides to Iran for Locust Control Programme.
- As per the reports of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the hopper stage population of locust is building up in Sistan-Baluchistan Region of Iran, which shall migrate to India in coming months leading to further crop devastation. **Government of India has taken an initiative to counter the locust menace at its breeding ground itself and approached Iran for coordinated efforts.**

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/16/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-16-june-2020/>

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

- | <i>Places in News</i> | <i>State</i> |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1. Kuari Pass | Himachal Pradesh |
| 2. Fotoksar | Ladakh |
| 3. Roopkhund | Uttarakhand |

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Places in News**



- **Kuari Pass (Uttarakhand):** This trek was explored by Lord Curzon and is also known as the Curzon trail.
- **Brahma Taal (Uttarakhand):** It is a hidden and secluded lake amidst the ridge, where Lord Brahma meditated according to the mythology.
- **Fotoksaris** a picturesque village in **Ladakh**. It is the part of **the Lingshed- Padum trek (also known as The Great Zaskar trek)**.
- **Roopkund (Uttarakhand):** It is a high altitude glacial lake. It lies in the lap of **Trishul massif**.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/16/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-16-june-2020/>

139. Consider the following statements:

1. Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) is the first regulatory body set up by the Government of India.
2. One of the tasks of PNGRB is to, ensure competitive markets for gas.
3. Appeals against the decisions of PNGRB go before the Appellate Tribunals for Electricity.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- S1: **PGNRB was constituted in 2006**, and therefore S1 cannot be correct. A number of regulatory bodies have existed before.
- S2: The board has several functions such as to provide, by regulations, and enforce, retail service obligations for retail outlets and marketing service obligations for entities; monitor transportation rates and take corrective action to prevent restrictive trade practice by the entities etc. This clearly indicates that it ensures a competitive market for gas. See <http://www.pngrb.gov.in/Functions-of-Board.html>
- S3: This is correct. The Appellate Tribunal established under section 110 of the Electricity Act, 2003 (36 of 2003) shall be the Appellate Tribunal for PNGRB. See <http://www.pngrb.gov.in/the-act.html#bm9>

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/16/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-16-june-2020/>

140. The economic cost of food grains to the Food Corporation of India is Minimum Support Price and bonus (if any) paid to the farmers plus

- (a) transportation cost only
- (b) interest cost only



- (c) procurement incidentals and distribution cost
 (d) procurement incidentals and charges for godowns

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The economic cost of food grains procured by the FCI is a total of MSP and bonus (if any) paid to the farmers plus the procurement incidentals and distribution cost.
- The procurement incidentals are the initial costs incurred during procurement of foodgrains. The distribution costs include freight, handling charges, storage costs in godowns, losses during transit etc.

Refer: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/es2004-05/chapt2005/chap513.pdf>

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 17th -June-2020

141. Consider the following statements:

1. The Tenth Schedule was inserted in the Constitution in 1985 by the 62nd Amendment Act.
2. The law allows a party to merge with or into another party provided that at least two-thirds of its legislators are in favour of the merger.

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:

- Stat1: **The Tenth Schedule** was inserted in the Constitution in 1985 by the **52nd Amendment Act**.
 - It lays down the process by which legislators may be disqualified on grounds of defection by the Presiding Officer of a legislature based on a petition by any other member of the House.
 - The decision on question as to disqualification on ground of defection is referred to the Chairman or the Speaker of such House, and his decision is final.
- Stat2: **Exceptions under the law:**
 - Legislators may change their party without the risk of disqualification in certain circumstances.



- **The law allows a party to merge with or into another party provided that at least two-thirds of its legislators are in favour of the merger.**
- In such a scenario, neither the members who decide to merge, nor the ones who stay with the original party will face disqualification.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/17/10th-schedule-of-the-constitution-5/>

142. Consider the following statements:

1. Article 32 is a basic feature of the Constitution.
2. Parliament can empower any court to issue writs of all kinds.
3. President can suspend the right to move any court for the enforcement of the fundamental rights during a national emergency.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Stat1: Dr Ambedkar called Article 32 as the most important article of the Constitution—‘an Article without which this constitution would be a nullity. It is the very soul of the Constitution and the very heart of it’. **The Supreme Court has ruled that Article 32 is a basic feature of the Constitution.** Hence, it cannot be abridged or taken away even by way of an amendment to the Constitution
- Stat2: Parliament can empower any other court to issue directions, orders and writs of all kinds. However, this can be done without prejudice to the above powers conferred on the Supreme Court. **Any other court here does not include high courts because Article 226 has already conferred these powers on the high courts.**
- Stat3: The right to move the Supreme Court shall not be suspended except as otherwise provided for by the Constitution. Thus the Constitution provides that the **President can suspend the right to move any court for the enforcement of the fundamental rights during a national emergency (Article 359).**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/17/reservation-is-not-a-fundamental-right-says-supreme-court/>

143. Recently, ‘103rd Constitution Amendment Act’, sometimes mentioned in the media in reference to:



- (a) Reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs)
- (b) 10% reservation for Economically Weaker Sections
- (c) Constitutional status to the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC)
- (d) Increasing allocation of funds to 6th Schedule Areas

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- In 2019, the **103rd Constitution Amendment Act** was passed empowering both Centre and the states to provide **10% reservation to the EWS category** of society in government jobs and educational institutions.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/17/reservation-is-not-a-fundamental-right-says-supreme-court/>

144. Which of the following best describes the adoption of 'coal washing technology' in thermal power plants?

- (a) It helps to increase the ash fusion temperature
- (b) It increases the efficiency and quality of the dry fuel
- (c) It drastically reduces the cost associated with the process of coal washing
- (d) It significantly improves the air quality around the thermal stations

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- From January 2014 onwards, the Environment Ministry had been working towards "progressive reduction" of distance that unwashed coal would travel, keeping in view that ultimately all coals, irrespective of distance from supplying mines, will have to be washed and comply with less than 34 per cent ash limit.
- This was done in line with the country's stand in climate change negotiations – **not to reduce coal consumption and rather focus on emission control.**
- **Washing coal increases the efficiency and quality of the dry fuel.**
- In theory, a process like coal washing was supposed to be good for everyone; **thermal power plants would have fewer operational problems due to poor coal quality.**
- The **combustion of washed coal would be better from an emissions and local air pollution perspective, and the unnecessary transport of large amounts of ash and non-combustible material would be minimized.**
- This was ultimately aimed at the protection of the environment.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/17/supplying-washed-coal/>



145. In the Indian context, what is the implication of ratifying the 'Additional Protocol' with the 'International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)'?

- (a) The civilian nuclear reactors come under IAEA safeguards.
- (b) The military nuclear installations come under the inspection of IAEA.
- (c) The country will have the privilege to buy uranium from the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG).
- (d) The country automatically becomes a member of the NSG.

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct because an Additional Protocol (AP) to the Safeguards Agreement between the Government of India and the IAEA for the Application of Safeguards to Civilian Nuclear Facilities entered into force on 25 July 2014.
- Statement 2 is incorrect.
- Statement 3 is incorrect as IAEA protocol ratification will not give the privilege to buy uranium from the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG)
- Statement 4 is incorrect because NSG membership is not based on IAEA Additional Protocol ratification.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/17/iaea-begins-meet-over-irans-n-programme/>

146. 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:

- 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/2020/06/17/iaea-begins-meet-over-irans-n-programme/>



147. Consider the following pairs :

<i>Terms sometimes seen in news</i>	<i>Context / Topic</i>
1. Belle 2 experiment	Artificial Intelligence
2. CRISPR – Cas9	Particle Physics
3. Cold Atom Laboratory	Iran Nuclear Deal

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

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

Ans: (d)

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

- Stat1: **The Belle II experiment** is designed to record data at Super KEKB, a 3 km circumference asymmetric electron-positron collider with a performance similar or better than Belle or BaBar, the B factory detectors, in a much more severe beam background environment. Belle-2 experiment in Tsukuba, Japan, by The High Energy Accelerator Research Organisation (KEK) is designed to study violations of the Standard Model of particle physics.
- Stat2: **CRISPR technology** is a simple yet powerful tool for editing genomes. It allows researchers to easily alter DNA sequences and modify gene function. Its many potential applications include correcting genetic defects, treating and preventing the spread of diseases and improving crops. However, its promise also raises ethical concerns.
- Stat3: The **Cold Atom Laboratory (CAL)** is an experimental instrument being developed that was originally scheduled for launch to the International Space Station (ISS) in June 2017. It was then delayed until a scheduled launch on a SpaceX CRS-12 rocket in August 2017. It was launched in May 21, 2018.
- The instrument will create extremely cold conditions in the microgravity environment of the ISS leading to the **formation of Bose Einstein Condensates** that are a magnitude colder than those that are created in laboratories on Earth.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/17/fifth-state-of-matter/>

148. What is/are the importance/importances of the 'United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification'?

- 1. It aims to promote effective action through innovative national programmes and supportive inter-national partnerships.
- 2. It has a special/particular focus on South Asia and North Africa regions, and its Secretariat facilitates the allocation of major portion of financial resources to these regions.



3. It is committed to bottom-up approach, encouraging the participation of local people in combating the desertification.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Stat2: Though desertification affects Africa the most, where two-thirds of the continent is desert or drylands, it is not a problem confined to drylands in Africa. United States, Latin America and the Caribbean have a high percentage of degraded lands.
- The problem is starker in developing countries (majority of population in drylands is living in these countries). So, the UNCCD secretariat facilitates south-south cooperation is addressing desertification.
- We could not find any such provision that the UNCCD secretariat allocates majority of resources to the South Asian and North African regions, even though it focuses on these regions
- For stat1 and 2: <http://www.unccd.int/en/about-the-convention/Pages/About-the-Convention.aspx>

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/17/world-day-to-combat-desertification-and-drought-17-june-2/>

149. Recently new species of fish belongs to genus Schizothorax has been discovered in which of the following state?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:



A new Fish species has been discovered in Arunachal Pradesh and has been named as *Schizothorax sikusirumensis*.



@mannkibaat

Refer: facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/17/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-17-june-2020/>

150. Consider the following statements regarding Kanha National Park and Tiger Reserve (KNPTR).

1. KNPTR is on the Maikal range of the Satpura hills.
2. It is located in Chhattisgarh.
3. It has been instrumental in rescuing the swamp deer from extinction.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Hard ground swamp deer (*Barasingha* or *Rucervus duvaucelii*), the state animal of Madhya Pradesh, is seeing a revival in the Kanha National Park and Tiger Reserve (KNPTR) after having been perilously close to extinction for a long time.
- **KNPTR is on the Maikal range of the Satpura hills, and is spread over an area of 940 square kilometres between Mandla and Balaghat districts of Madhya Pradesh.**
- The deer was brought back from the verge of extinction with the help of a successful breeding programme and conservation practices at the KNPTR.
- Swamp deer are already extinct in Pakistan and Bangladesh. It is now found only in south- western Nepal and central and northeastern India.



- There are three subspecies of swamp deer found in the Indian Subcontinent. The western swamp deer (*Rucervus duvaucelii*) found in Nepal, southern swamp deer (*Rucervus duvaucelii branderi*) found in central and north India and eastern swamp deer (*Rucervus duvaucelii ranjitsinhi*) found in the Kaziranga and Dudhwa National Parks.

Refer: <https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/wildlife-biodiversity/near-extinct-hard-ground-swamp-deer-see-revival-in-kanha-69603>

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 18th -June-2020

151. 'Reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RC-PCR)' test primarily used to:

- measure the amount of a specific DNA
- strengthen the body immunity of COVID patient
- test respiratory specimens during the acute phase of infection
- measure the amount of a specific RNA

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR)** is a laboratory technique combining reverse transcription of RNA into DNA and amplification of specific DNA targets using polymerase chain reaction (PCR).
- **It is primarily used to measure the amount of a specific RNA.**
- This is achieved by monitoring the amplification reaction using fluorescence, a technique called real-time PCR or quantitative PCR (qPCR).
- **How RT-PCR is used for detecting Covid-19?**
 - The causative agent for Covid19 is the SARS-CoV-2 virus. It is an RNA virus, that means it infiltrates a healthy cell to multiply and survive.
 - Thus, the RT-PCR test is for the identification of SARS-CoV-2 RNA. In this, the RNA is converted to DNA through a process called 'reverse transcription' for detecting viruses.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/18/150698/>



152. Consider the following statements:

1. RBI holds 100 per cent stake in National Housing Bank (NHB).
2. NHB was established in 1988 under the National Housing Bank Act, 1987.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has sold its entire stakes in the National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) and National Housing Bank. The decision to divest its entire stake was taken based on the recommendations of the second Narasimham Committee.
- **The government now holds a 100 per cent stake in both NHB and NABARD.**
- **About NHB:**
 - **NHB is an All India Financial Institution (AIFI), set up in 1988, under the National Housing Bank Act, 1987.**
 - It is an apex agency established to operate as a principal agency to promote housing finance institutions both at local and regional levels and to provide financial and other support incidental to such institutions and for matters connected therewith.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/18/housing-finance-companies/>

153. Which of the following best describes/describe the term 'Gateway' in the NASA's Gateway Lunar Orbit outpost?

- (a) Radio telescope
- (b) Space office for astronauts
- (c) Small spaceship
- (d) All of the above

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **What is NASA's Gateway Lunar Orbit outpost?**
 - **The Gateway is a small spaceship that will orbit the Moon, meant for astronaut missions to the Moon and later, for expeditions to Mars.**
 - It will act as a temporary office and living quarters for astronauts, distanced at about 250,000 miles from Earth.
 - The spaceship will have living quarters, laboratories for science and research and docking ports for visiting spacecraft.
 - Compared to the ISS, the Gateway is much smaller.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/18/nasas-gateway-lunar-orbit-outpost/>

154. If you want to see gharials in their natural habitat, which one of the following is the best place to visit?

- (a) Bhitarkanika Mangroves
- (b) Chambal River
- (c) Pulicat Lake
- (d) Deepor Beel

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Option A: Gharials inhabit deep freshwater habitats, not both freshwater and saltwater habitats as inhabited by crocodile species. So, A is ruled out. Option A is the home of saltwater crocodile.
- Option B: **Gharials can be naturally found in National Chambal Gharial Wildlife Sanctuary.**
- The gharial is one of three crocodilians native to India, the other two being the mugger crocodile and the saltwater crocodile.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/18/world-crocodile-day/>

155. If you want to see saltwater crocodile in their natural habitat, which one of the following is the best place to visit?

- (a) Bhitarkanika Mangroves
- (b) Chambal River
- (c) Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary
- (d) Deepor Beel

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- Option A is the home of saltwater crocodile.
- The saltwater crocodile is found in the eastern states of Odisha, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. **The largest specimen was found in Odisha, and reached 7.0 m (23.0 ft).** Its population numbers about 300. **Saltwater crocodiles live in the mangroves of Bhitarkanika and Sunderbans, Mahanadi Delta, and in the swamplands in Odisha and West Bengal (including rivers).**
- The gharial is one of three crocodilians native to India, the other two being the mugger crocodile and the saltwater crocodile.
- Option B: Gharials can be naturally found in National Chambal Gharial Wildlife Sanctuary.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/18/world-crocodile-day/>

156. Consider the following statements about Pangolin:

1. Pangolin is only scaly mammal on the planet.



2. It is capable of swimming in seawater.
3. As per the WPA 1972, it cannot be hunted by any person except under some provisions provided by law.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Pangolin is 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.
- Protection Status:
 - 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)**.
- **The animal can be found in grasslands and secondary forests, and is well adapted to desert regions as it is believed to have a tolerance to dry areas, but prefers more barren, hilly regions.** It prefers soft and semi-sandy soil conditions suitable for digging burrows.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/18/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-18-june-2020/>

157. Consider the following statements regarding National Optical Fiber Network (NOFN):

1. It aims to connect all the 2,50,000 Gram panchayats in the country and provide 100 Mbps connectivity to all gram panchayats.
2. The entire project is being funded by Universal service Obligation Fund (USOF).
3. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited has been mandated to create the National Optical Fiber Network (NOFN) in India.

Which of the statement given above is/are correct?

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



Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **The National Optical Fiber Network (NOFN) aims to connect all the 2,50,000 Gram panchayats in the country and provide 100 Mbps connectivity to all gram panchayats (GPs).** To achieve this, the existing fibers of PSUs (BSNL, Railtel and Power Grid) were utilized and incremental fiber was laid to connect to Gram Panchayats wherever necessary.
- The entire project is being funded by Universal service Obligation Fund (USOF), which was set up for improving telecom services in rural and remote areas of the country. The objective is to facilitate the delivery of e-governance, e-health, e-education, e-banking, Internet and other services to the rural India.
- **Bharat Broadband Network Limited is a Special Purpose Vehicle set up under Companies Act by Government of India with an authorized capital of Rs. 1000 Cr. It has been mandated to create the National Optical Fiber Network (NOFN) in India. Hence statement 3 is incorrect.**

Refer: www.bbnl.nic.in/index1.aspx?lsid=18&lev=1&lid=18&langid=1

158. Consider the following statements regarding Maritime museum:

1. It will be setup by Ministry of Culture
 2. It will be set up at Lothal- the Harrapan age maritime site
- 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:

- **Maritime museum to be set up at Lothal- the Harrapan age maritime site near Ahmedabad, by Ministry of Shipping.**
- Culture & Tourism sector.
 - Re-curation of the Indian Museum in Kolkata, announced by Prime Minister in January 2020.
 - Museum on Numismatics and Trade to be located in the historic Old Mint building in Kolkata.
 - 4 more museums from across the country to be taken up for renovation and re-curation.
 - Support for setting up of a Tribal Museum in Ranchi (Jharkhand).

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2019/06/11/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-11-june-2019/>



159. 'Index of economic freedom' is released by:

- (a) Germanwatch
- (b) World Economic Forum
- (c) The Heritage Foundation
- (d) The Economist

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **About The Index of economic freedom**
- For much of human history, most individuals have lacked economic freedom and opportunity, condemning them to poverty and deprivation.
- Today, we live in the most prosperous time in human history. Poverty, sicknesses, and ignorance are receding throughout the world, due in large part to the advance of economic freedom. In 2019, the principles of economic freedom that have fueled this monumental progress are once again measured in the **Index of Economic Freedom**, an annual guide published by The **Heritage Foundation**, Washington's No. 1 think tank.
- For twenty-five years the Index has delivered thoughtful analysis in a clear, friendly, and straight-forward format. With new resources for users and a website tailored for research and education, the Index of Economic Freedom is poised to help readers track over two decades of the advancement in economic freedom, prosperity, and opportunity and promote these ideas in their homes, schools, and communities.

Refer: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/economicsurvey/doc/echapter.pdf>

160. Consider the following statements regarding Network products

1. Network products refer to the products where production occurs across the global value chain operated by multi-national corporations.
2. Exports of network products can contribute a quarter of the increase in value-added required for making India a \$5 trillion economy by 2025.

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:

- **Export of network products for job creation**
- Exports of network products can contribute a quarter of the increase in value-added required for making India a \$5 trillion



economy by 2025. Network products refer to the products where production occurs across the global value chain operated by multinational corporations. This can be achieved by integrating 'Assemble in India for the world' in the 'Make in India' initiative. This can create 4 crore well-paid jobs by 2025 and 8 crore jobs by 2030.

Refer: chapter-05: Creating Jobs and Growth by Specializing to Exports in Network Products: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/economicsurvey/doc/echapter.pdf>

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 19th -June-2020

161. Consider the following statements:

1. Article 312 of the constitution of India gives authority to the Rajya Sabha to set up new branches of the All India Services with a simple majority vote.
2. Cabinet Secretary is the ex-officio Chairman of the Civil Services Board.
3. Cabinet Secretary holds the 11th position in the Order of Precedence of India.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Stat1: The Constitution, **under Article 312** gives authority to the **Rajya Sabha (the upper house of Parliament)** to set up new branches of the All India Services with a **two-thirds majority vote**. The Indian Administrative Service (IAS), Indian Police Service (IPS), and Indian Forest Service (IFoS) have been established under this constitutional provision.
- Stat2 and 3: The highest ranking civil servant is the **Cabinet Secretary**. He is **ex-officio Chairman of the Civil Services Board**; the chief of the Indian Administrative Service and head of all civil services under the rules of business of the Government of India. He also holds the **11th position in the Order of Precedence of India**.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/19/civil-services-board/>

162. With reference to Constitution of India, who among the following is the 'Executive head of India'?

- (a) Cabinet Secretary
- (b) Prime Minister
- (c) President
- (d) Speaker of Lok Sabha

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The **president of India** is the **head of state (article-53) and the commander-in-chief of the Indian Armed Forces** whilst the elected prime minister acts as the head of the executive, and is responsible for running the union government.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/19/civil-services-board/>

163. Consider the following statements:

1. Russia-India-China grouping was conceived by the then Russian foreign minister in 1998.
2. All three are nuclear powers and permanent members of the UN 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: (a)

Explanation: **Russia-India-China grouping**

- **Conceived by the then Russian foreign minister Yevgeny Primakov in 1998.**
- The group was founded on the basis of "ending its subservient foreign policy guided by the U.S.," and "renewing old ties with India and fostering the newly discovered friendship with China."
- Significance and potential of the grouping:
- Together, the RIC countries occupy over 19 percent of the global landmass and contribute to over 33 percent of global GDP.
- **All three are nuclear powers and two, Russia and China, are permanent members of the UN Security Council, while India aspires to be one.**
- The trio could also contribute to creating a new economic structure for the world.
- They could work together on disaster relief and humanitarian assistance.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/19/russia-india-china-grouping/>



164. The term 'Uighurs' is sometimes mentioned in media in reference to:

- (a) autonomous region within China
- (b) some minority community
- (c) fossils of a kind of dinosaurs
- (d) a cave system found in North-East India

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **Who are Uighurs?**

- Uighurs are a **Muslim minority community** concentrated in the country's **northwestern Xinjiang province**.
- They claim closer ethnic ties to Turkey and other central Asian countries than to China, by brute — and brutal — force.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/19/u-s-uighur-rights-bill/>

165. With reference to One Nation One Ration Card (ONOR) scheme,

Consider the following statements:

1. Under this, a person can buy his/her share of food grains as per his/her entitlement under the NFSA act 2013.
2. For national portability, the central government will set up data centers in all state.

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 beneficiary verification process**
 - The new system will work with help from technology. The beneficiaries will be verified through biometric authentication i.e. Aadhaar, and electronic point of sale (ePOS) devices will be installed at the outlets.
- **How will the ration card portability system work?**
 - **The technological platform required for the 'one nation one ration card' scheme will be provided by the Integrated Management of Public Distribution System (IM-PDS) portal (<http://www.impds.nic.in/>).**
 - This portal will make it possible for the migrant workers to purchase food grains from any FPS located in any state of the country. **The other portal that will host the data regarding the food grains distribution through ePOS within a state is annavitrans.nic.in.**
 - Once the 'one nation one ration card' system takes effect in a given state, the beneficiary family can purchase food grains from different locations. For example, a migrant worker staying in a different state can buy his or her share of the subsidized food grains from any FPS in the state where they



work while the remaining family members will be able to buy their quota of the supplies back at home.

- **Standard format of ‘one nation, one ration card’:**
 - A standard format for ration card has been prepared after taking into account the format used by different states.
 - For national portability, the state governments have been asked to issue the ration card in bi-lingual format, wherein besides the local language, the other language could be Hindi or English.
 - The states have also been told to have a 10-digit standard ration card number, wherein first two digits will be state code and the next two digits will be running ration card numbers.
 - Besides this, a set of another two digits will be appended with ration card number to create unique member IDs for each member of the household in a ration card.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/19/one-nation-one-ration-card-scheme-4/>

166. With reference to ‘Dexamethasone’, sometimes seen in the news, consider the following statements:

1. It is used to treat conditions in which the body’s immune system does not function properly.
2. It can also be used in the manufacture of agriculture pesticides.

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:

- **It is an anti-inflammatory drug, commonly used to treat conditions in which the body’s immune system does not function properly, and causes inflammation and tissue damage.**
- Dexamethasone reduces the production of the chemicals that cause inflammation and also reduces the activity of the immune system by affecting the way white blood cells function.
- It falls in a category called corticosteroids, which closely mimic cortisol, the hormone naturally produced by the adrenal glands in humans.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/19/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-19-june-2020/>



167. Consider the following statements:

1. Jagannath Rath Yatra also popularly known as the 'Festival of Chariots'.
2. All the three deities of the temple travel in three different chariots during this festival.

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: **Jagannath Rath Yatra:**

- Popularly known as the '**Festival of Chariots**', Rath Yatra festival in honour of Puri's Lord Jagannath is grand celebration.
- The festival is dedicated to Lord Jagannath, his sister Goddess Subhadra and elder brother Balabhadra.
- **All the three deities of the temple – Jagannath, Subhadra and Balabhadra – travel in three different chariots during this festival. The chariots are called Nandighosha, Taladhwaja, and Devadalana respectively.**
- New chariots for all the three deities are constructed every year using wood even if the architect of the chariots remain similar. Four wooden horses are attached to each chariot.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/19/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-19-june-2020/>

168. Kodumanal is a village located in the Erode district in Tamil Nadu. It was once known as famous:

- (a) Port town
- (b) Trade city
- (c) Slave centre
- (d) Both (a) and (b)

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Kodumanal** is a village located in the Erode district in Tamil Nadu. It is located on the northern banks of Noyyal River, a tributary of the Cauvery.
- It was once a **flourishing ancient trade city known as Kodumanam**, as inscribed in Patittrupathu of Sangam Literature.
- It served as a trade-cum-industrial centre from 5th century BCE to 1st century BCE.
- The place is an important archaeological site, under the control of State Archaeological Department of Tamil Nadu.
- **Why in News?**
 - The following things have been found during the ongoing excavation at the site:



- 10 Pots and bowls placed outside three-chambered burial cists and inside the cairn-circle. This has thrown light on burial rituals and the concept of afterlife in megalithic culture.
- Other findings: Animal skull, possibly of a wolf or a dog; precious stones; copper smelting units; potteries.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/19/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-19-june-2020/>

169. Consider the following statements regarding Portal Santusht

1. It is an Implementation Monitoring Cell launched by Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.
2. The portal aims to address the speedy redressal of grievances of workers and employers.
3. It monitors services that are provided by the health insurance and EPFOs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **The Ministry of Labour and Employment has launched ‘Santusht portal’ to monitor the implementation of labour laws at the grassroots level.** The objective of ‘Santusht’ is to promote transparency, accountability, effective delivery of public services and implementation of policies, schemes of Ministry of Labour and Employment at the grassroots level through constant monitoring.
- It monitors services that are provided by the health insurance and EPFOs.

Refer: <https://pib.nic.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1601761>

170. Consider the following statements regarding Sophisticated Analytical & Technical Help Institutes (SATHI)

1. It has been launched by Department of Science and Technology (DST)
2. The first phase SATHI facilities are being located at IIT-Delhi, IIT-Kharagpur and BHU- Varanasi.
3. The facilities provided by the SATHI shall be utilized by any user/organization without any charge.

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: (c)

Explanation:

- **The Department of Science and Technology launches SATHI Initiative** for building shared, professionally managed strong S&T infrastructure. It will address the problems of accessibility, maintenance, redundancy and duplication of expensive equipment in the Institutions. The aim is to provide professionally managed services with efficiency, accessibility and transparency of highest order under one roof to service the demands of industry, start-ups and academia.
- In the first phase SATHI facilities are being located at IIT-Delhi, IIT-Kharagpur and BHU- Varanasi.
- **The facilities provided by the SATHI may be utilized by any user/organization on payment of nominal charge.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/02/04/sophisticated-analytical-technical-help-institutessathi/>

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 20th -June-2020

171. 'Keeladi', an ancient excavation site is in news recently, is located in:

- Karnataka
- Kerala
- Andhra Pradesh
- Tamil Nadu

Ans: (d)



Explanation:

- **All about Keeladi excavations:**
- Excavations in Keeladi prove that an **urban civilisation existed in Tamil Nadu** in the Sangam era on the **banks of the river Vaigai**.
- Many antiquities have been unearthed that provide crucial evidence to understanding the missing links of the Iron Age [12th century BCE to 6th century BCE] to the Early Historic Period [6th century BCE to 4th century BCE] and subsequent cultural developments.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/20/keeladi-excavations/>

172. 'Rule of Law Index' is released by which of the following?

- Amnesty International
- International Court of Justice
- The Office of UN Commissioner for Human Rights
- World Justice Project

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The **World Justice Project (WJP)** is an American independent, multidisciplinary organization with the stated mission of “working to advance the rule of law around the world”. **It brings rule of law index.**
- **The World Justice Project Rule of Law Index** is a quantitative assessment tool designed to offer a detailed and comprehensive picture of the extent to which countries adhere to the rule of law in practice.
- The Index provides data on eight dimensions of the rule of law: limited government powers; absence of corruption; order and security; fundamental rights; open government; regulatory enforcement; civil justice; and criminal justice.
- These factors are further disaggregated into forty-four indicators. Together, they provide a comprehensive picture of rule of law compliance. The index is typically published annually.
- **Why in News?**
 - A petition was filed in the Supreme Court asking the Court to direct the government to setup expert panels to boost India's prospects in the Rule of Law Index.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/20/rule-of-law-index/>

173. Consider the following statements:

- Small industrial Development Bank of India (SIDBI) is a development financial institution in India.
- Recently, Ministry of Finance has signed MoU with SIDBI, to engage SIDBI as the implementation agency for PM SVANidhi.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

- 1 Only



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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- Stat1: **Small industrial Development Bank of India (SIDBI)** is a **development financial institution** in India, headquartered at Lucknow and having its offices all over the country. Its purpose is to provide refinance facilities and short term lending to industries, and serves as the principal financial institution in the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector.
- Stat2: The **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** has signed MoU with **Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)** in order to engage SIDBI as **the Implementation Agency for PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi)** – a Special Micro-Credit Facility for Street Vendors.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/20/pm-svanidhi-2/>

174. With reference to new amendment to 'Equalization Levy', effective from April 1, 2020, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is introduced as a part of the Income Tax Act.
2. Non-resident entities that offer advertisement services in India can claim a tax credit in their home country under the "Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements".

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:

- Stat1: Equalisation Levy was introduced in India in 2016, with the intention of taxing the digital transactions and online advertisements. **It is part of the Finance act.**
- Statement 2: **Since Equalisation Levy is outside the scope of tax treaties entered into by India with other countries, the foreign company cannot claim a tax credit in its home country.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/20/what-is-gafa-tax/>

175. The word 'GAFA Tax' is sometimes mentioned in media in reference to:

- (a) Corporate tax
(b) Cess on digital transaction
(c) Digital tax
(d) Equalisation levy on online advertising

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **What is GAFA tax?**

- GAFA tax—named after Google, Apple, Facebook, Amazon—is a **proposed digital tax to be levied on large technology and internet companies**. France has decided to introduce the tax (3% tax on revenues from digital activities).

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/20/what-is-gafa-tax/>

176. Consider the following statement:

1. The primary purpose of National Disaster Relief Fund (NDRF) is to supplement the State Disaster Response Funds (SDRF).
2. NDRF is located in the "Contingency Fund of India" under "Reserve Funds not bearing interest".

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:

- Stat1: NDRF fund managed by the Central Government for meeting the expenses for emergency response, relief and rehabilitation due to any threatening disaster situation or disaster.
- **It was constituted to supplement the funds of the State Disaster Response Funds (SDRF) of the states to facilitate immediate relief in case of calamities of a severe nature.**
- Stat2: Located in the **"Public Accounts"** of Government of India under "Reserve Funds not bearing interest".



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/20/individual-contributions-to-ndrf-get-green-light-from-finance-ministry/>

177. Recently which of the following ministry has launched 'SATYABHAMA portal'?

- (a) Ministry of Culture
- (b) Ministry of Tourism
- (c) Ministry of Mines
- (d) Ministry of Steel

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Launched by Ministry of Mines.**
- SATYABHAMA stands for Science and Technology Yojana for Aatmanirbhar Bharat in Mining Advancement.
- Designed, developed and implemented by National Informatics Centre (NIC), Mines Informatics Division.
- It allows online submission of project proposals along with monitoring of the projects and utilization of funds / grants. The researchers can also submit progress reports and Final Technical Reports of the projects in the electronic format in the portal.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/20/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-20-june-2020/>

178. Among which of the following countries does/do India have Free Trade Agreements (FTAs):

1. Sri Lanka
2. Nepal
3. Thailand
4. Malaysia

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

**Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) already in force**

S.No.	Name of the Agreement	Date of Signing of the Agreement	Date of Implementation of the Agreement & Recent Developments
1	India - Sri Lanka FTA	28 th December, 1998	Date of implementation of treaty was 1 st March, 2000, The negotiations for the proposed Economic and Technology Cooperation Agreement (ETCA) between India and Sri Lanka, covering trade in goods, trade in services, investment and economic and technology cooperation are in progress. Eleven Round of Negotiations have been completed.
2	Agreement on SAFTA (India, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Bhutan, the Maldives and Afghanistan)	4 th January, 2004	Date of implementation of treaty was 1 st January, 2006 (<i>Tariff concessions implemented from 1st July, 2006</i>)
3	India Nepal Treaty of Trade	27 th October, 2009	The Treaty has been extended for a further period of seven years and is currently in force till 26 th October 2023. A Comprehensive Review of the India-Nepal Treaty of Trade, initiated in 2018, is in progress.
4	India - Bhutan Agreement on Trade Commerce and Transit	17 th January, 1972	Renewed periodically, with mutually agreed modifications. Agreement dated 29 th July 2006 was valid for ten years. With mutual consent, the validity was extended for a period of one year or the period till the proposed new Agreement comes into force. The renewed Agreement has been signed on 12 th November, 2016 and came into force with effect from 29 th July, 2017.
5	India - Thailand FTA - Early Harvest Scheme (EHS)	9 th October, 2003	Date of implementation of treaty was 1 st September, 2004
6	India - Singapore CECA	29 th June, 2005	Date of implementation of treaty was 1 st August, 2005. The second review of India Singapore CECA was jointly concluded and announced on 1 st June, 2018 during the state visit of Prime Minister of India to Singapore.
7	India - ASEAN- CECA - Trade in Goods, Services and Investment Agreement (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam)	13 th August, 2009 for goods and November, 2014 for Services and Investment	<p>Date of implementation of treaty for Goods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st January, 2010 in respect of India and Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand. • 1st June, 2010 in respect of India and Vietnam. • 1st September, 2010 in respect of India and Myanmar. • 1st October, 2010 in respect of India and Indonesia. • 1st November, 2010 in respect of India and Brunei. • 24th January, 2011 in respect of India and Laos. • 1st June, 2011 in respect of India and the Philippines. • 1st August, 2011 in respect of India and Cambodia. <p>Services and Investment</p> <p>For Services and Investment, date of implementation of treaty was 1st July, 2015.</p>
8	India - South Korea CEPA	7 th August, 2009	Date of implementation of treaty was 1 st January, 2010. The two sides have commenced negotiations for up-gradation of CEPA in 2016 to explore the possibility of providing further tariff concessions/ simplification of Rules of Origin to Indian exporters. 8 th round of negotiations for upgrading India-Korea CEPA was held in June, 2019 in India.
9	India - Japan CEPA	16 th February, 2011	Date of implementation of treaty was 1 st August, 2011
10	India - Malaysia CECA	18 th February, 2011	Date of implementation of treaty was 1 st July, 2011

Source: Department of Commerce.

Refer: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/economicsurvey/>

179. Consider the following statements

1. The share of agriculture and allied sectors in the total GVA of the country has been declining on account of relatively higher growth performance of non-agricultural sectors.
2. Government recently had increased MSPs for all mandated kharif, rabi and other commercial crops.

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:

- Stat1: The share of agriculture and allied sectors in the Gross Value Added (GVA) of the country at current prices has declined from 18.2 per cent in 2014-15 to 16.5 per cent in 2019-20. **The share of agriculture and allied sectors in the total GVA of the country has been declining on account of relatively higher growth performance of non-agricultural sectors.** This is a natural outcome of development process that leads to faster growth of non-agricultural sectors owing to structural changes taking place in the economy.
- Stat2: Government had increased MSPs for all mandated kharif, rabi and other commercial crops with a return of 1.5 times over all India weighted average cost of production for the season 2018-19. **Government has recently increased the MSPs for all mandated kharif and rabi crops for 2019-20 season in line with this principle.** Further, direct income/investment support schemes have been introduced. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

Refer: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/economicsurvey/>

180. Consider the following statements regarding Mukhya Mantri Krishi Ashirwad Yojana

1. It was started by Telangana Government.
2. The MMKAY scheme is a target set by the government to provide welfare and financial support to farmers.
3. It is the first scheme by the state government that provides 100 percent settlement through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) medium.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Stat1: **Mukhya Mantri Krishi Ashirwad Yojana started in in Jharkhand.**
- Stat2: MMKAY scheme is a target set by the government to provide welfare and financial support to farmers in Jharkhand.
- Stat3: The scheme, which was incorporated in the state budget from the financial year 2019-2020, is the first scheme by the state government that provides 100 percent settlement through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) medium



Refer: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/economicsurvey/>

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181. Consider the following statements:

1. The President's election is held in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote and the voting is by secret ballot.
2. Open ballot voting applies in election to Vice- President.

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:

- Stat1: The **President's election** is held in accordance with the **system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote** and the voting is by **secret ballot**. This system ensures that the successful candidate is returned by the absolute majority of votes.
- Stat2: **Vice-President's election**, like that of the President's election, is held in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote and the **voting is by secret ballot**.
- **Election to Rajya Sabha**: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/the-hindu-explains-how-are-elections-to-the-raja-sabha-held/article31879432.ece>

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/22/secrecy-of-ballot/>

182. Arrange the following locations in the direction of West to East:

1. Kalapani
2. Limpiyadhura
3. Lipulekh

Select the correct answer using the code below:

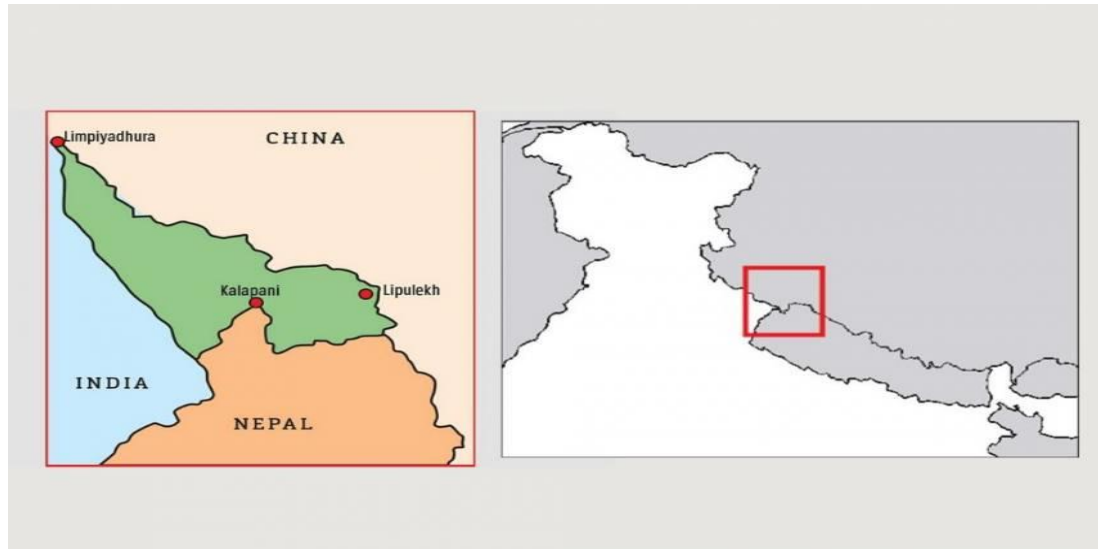
- (a) 1-2-3
- (b) 2-3-1
- (c) 1-3-2



(d) 2-1-3

Ans: (d)

Explanation:



- The move to amend the citizenship act comes days after the Nepal government completed the process of redrawing the country's political map through a Constitutional amendment, incorporating three strategically important Indian areas, a move that could severely jolt relations with New Delhi.
- These include- **Kalapani, Limpiyadhura and Lipulekh.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/22/madhesis-oppose-new-nepal-rule/>

183. With reference to Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (EAG) and Financial Action Task Force (FATF), consider the following statements:

1. EAG is an associate member of the FATF.
2. FATF is an inter-governmental body established in 1989 on the initiative of the OECD.
3. FATF is a “policy-making body”.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Stat1: The **EAG** is a regional body comprising nine countries: India, Russia, China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Belarus. It was established in 2004, **it is an associate member of the FATF.**
- Stat2 and 3: **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**.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/22/eurasian-group-on-combating-money-laundering-and-financing-of-terrorism-eag/>

184. At the Government of India level, the “Aspirational Districts Programme” is anchored by:

- (a) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
- (b) National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj
- (c) NITI Aayog
- (d) Ministry of Rural Development

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **Transformation of Aspirational Districts:**

- Launched in January 2018, the ‘Transformation of Aspirational Districts’ initiative aims to remove this heterogeneity through a mass movement to quickly and effectively transform these districts.
- The 115 districts were identified from 28 states, at least one from each state, in a transparent manner by a committee of Senior Officers to the Government of India, in consultation with State Officials using a composite index of key data sets that included deprivation enumerated under the Socio-Economic Caste Census, key health and education sector performance and state of basic infrastructure.
- **Institutional framework:** This programme is a policy priority of Government of India. **NITI Aayog anchors the programme with support from Central Ministries and the State Governments.** While NITI Aayog is steering the initiative in 30 districts, various central ministries oversee 50 districts besides the Ministry of Home Affairs, which focuses on 35 Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts. Officers at the level of Joint Secretary / Additional Secretary have been nominated to become the ‘Central Prabhari Officers’ of each district. States have appointed state-nodal and Prabhari officers. An Empowered Committee under the Convenorship of the CEO, NITI Aayog will help in the convergence of various government schemes and streamlining of efforts.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/22/garib-kalyan-rojgar-abhiyaan-launched/>

185. Which of the following is/are the advantage / advantages of practicing intercropping?

1. Lower pest densities
2. Reduction in soil surface evaporation
3. Reduction in soil erosion

Select the correct answer using the code given below.



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

Ans: (d)

Explanation: Advantages of intercropping:

- **More efficient use of light, water and other nutrient resources** compared to single crops.
- It allows for **effective management of cover crops** because **crop mixtures have lower pest densities**.
- Potential **increased crop yields per unit area**.
- Improved **soil fertility** by leguminous intercrops e.g. nitrogen fixing.
- Reduced **soil erosion**.
- Lowered **soil surface evaporation**.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/22/intercropping/>

186. Consider the following statements about Golden Langurs:

1. It is one of the most endangered primate species of India.
2. It is endemic to Western Ghats.
3. It is an herbivorous species.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Stat1: IUCN status: Endangered
- Stat2: It is an Old World monkey found in a small region of western Assam, India and in the neighboring foothills of the Black Mountains of Bhutan.
- Stat3: For the most part, the langur is confined to high trees where its long tail serves as a balancer when it leaps across branches. During the rainy season it obtains water from dew and rain drenched leaves. **Its diet is herbivorous, consisting of ripe and unripe fruits, mature and young leaves, seeds, buds and flowers.**

Refer: Facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/22/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-22-june-2020/>

187. 'Swabhimani Anchal', sometimes mentioned in the news recently is primarily related to:

- (a) Forest conservation movement



- (b) A tribal area in Odisha
- (c) Women rights movement
- (d) Social movements among tribes of East India

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Swabhimani Anchal**, formerly known as **Cut-off area, in Malkangiri district of Odisha has been a Maoist stronghold.**
- The area was covered by water from three sides and inhospitable terrain by another. It had long been a stronghold of naxalites.
- The Maoists from Odisha, Andhra Pradesh and Chhattisgarh used to slip into Swabhimani Anchal to take refuge.

Refer: Facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/22/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-22-june-2020/>

188. Union Budget is prepared by

- (a) Chief Economic Advisor
- (b) Department of Expenditure
- (c) Department of Financial Services
- (d) Department of Economic Affairs

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Budget is made through a consultative process involving ministry of finance, NITI Aayog and spending ministries. Finance ministry issues guidelines to spending based on which ministries present their demands. The Budget Division of the **Department of Economic Affairs in the finance ministry is the nodal body responsible for producing the Budget.**

Refer: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/>

189. The Constitution of India contains the following provisions with regard to the enactment of budget:

1. No demand for a grant shall be made except on the recommendation of the President.
2. Parliament can reduce or abolish a tax but cannot increase it.
3. The expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of India shall not be discussed or submitted to the vote of Parliament.

Which of the statement given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:



- **The Constitution of India contains the following provisions with regard to the enactment of budget:**
- The President shall in respect of every financial year cause to be laid before both the Houses of Parliament a statement of estimated receipts and expenditure of the Government of India for that year.
- **No demand for a grant shall be made except on the recommendation of the President.**
- No money shall be withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund of India except under appropriation made by law.
- No money bill imposing tax shall be introduced in the Parliament except on the recommendation of the President, and such a bill shall not be introduced in the Rajya Sabha.
- No tax shall be levied or collected except by authority of law.
- **Parliament can reduce or abolish a tax but cannot increase it.**
- The Constitution has also defined the relative roles or position of both the Houses of Parliament with regard to the enactment of the budget.
- **The expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of India shall not be submitted to the vote of Parliament. However, it can be discussed by the Parliament.**

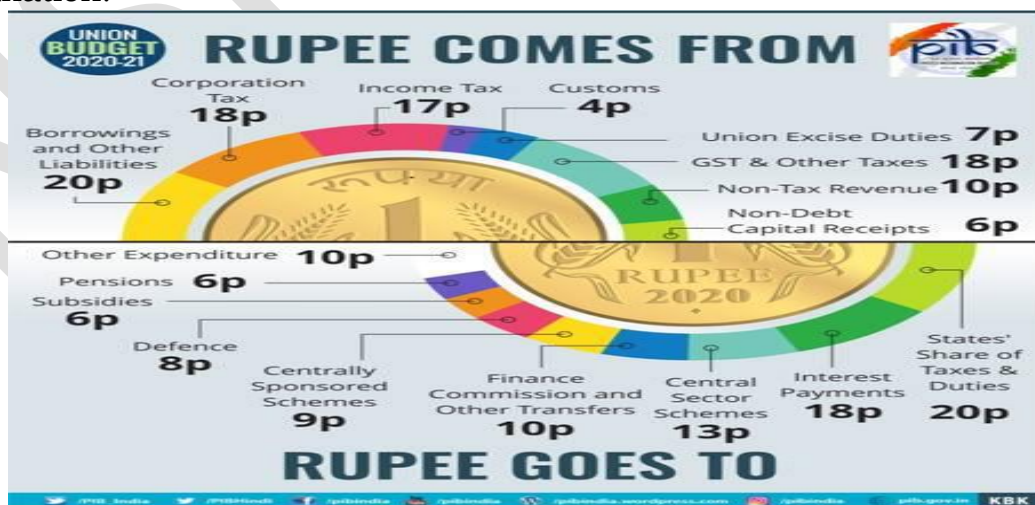
Refer: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/>

190. The largest source of receipt to the government is

- Income-Tax.
- Goods and Service Tax.
- Corporation-Tax.
- Borrowings and Other Liabilities.

Ans: (d)

Explanation:



Refer: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/>



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191. 'Diamond Ring' is a phenomenon observed:

- (a) only along the peripheral regions of the totality trail
- (b) at the start of a total solar eclipse
- (c) at the end of a total solar eclipse
- (d) only in the central regions of the total trail

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **What is a Solar Eclipse?**

- It is **a natural event that takes place on Earth when the Moon moves in its orbit between Earth and the Sun** (this is also known as an **occultation**).
- It happens at **New Moon**, when the Sun and Moon are in **conjunction** with each other.
- During an eclipse, the Moon's shadow (which is divided into **two parts: the dark umbra and the lighter penumbra**) moves across Earth's surface.

- **What is diamond ring effect?**

- Source: **The diamond-ring effect occurs at the beginning and end of totality during a total solar eclipse.** As the last bits of sunlight pass through the valleys on the moon's limb, and **the faint corona around the sun is just becoming visible, it looks like a ring with glittering diamonds on it.** It is a most lovely sight, which typically merely lasts a second or so. The highly transient diamond ring effect really shows that the universe is not as static as it looks like.



○

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/23/what-is-a-solar-eclipse/>

192. On 21st June, the Sun

- (a) does not set below the horizon at Antarctic Circle
- (b) shines vertically overhead at noon on the Equator
- (c) does not set below the horizon at the Arctic Circle
- (d) shines vertically overhead at the Tropic of Capricorn

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- For that hemisphere, the summer solstice is when the Sun reaches its highest position in the sky and is the day with the longest period of daylight. At the pole, there is continuous daylight around the summer solstice. See https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Summer_solstice

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/23/what-is-a-solar-eclipse/>

193. As per the seismic hazard map of India, both the states of Mizoram and Tripura

- (a) lie entirely in Zone IV
- (b) lie partially in Zone IV
- (c) lie entirely in Zone V
- (d) lie partially in Zone V

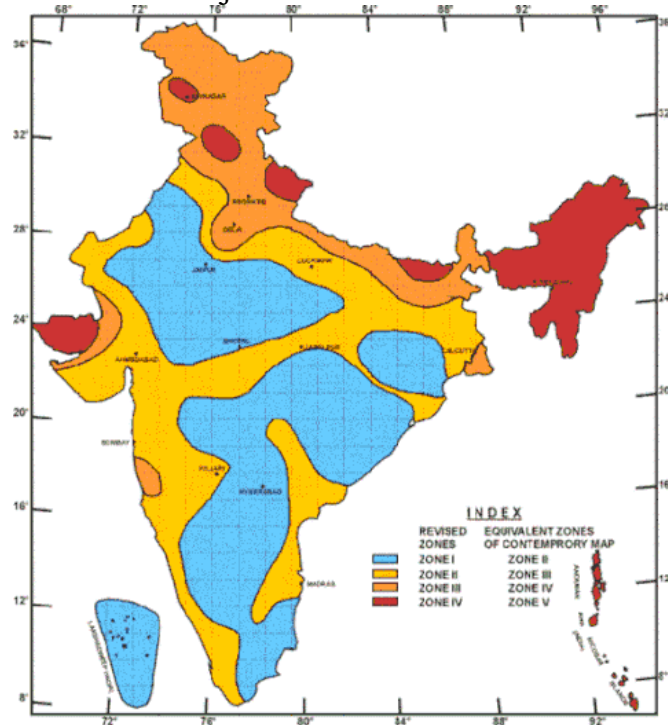
Ans: (c)

Explanation: **Why Mizoram and Tripura are more vulnerable?**

- **As per the seismic hazard map of India, both the states of Mizoram and Tripura lie entirely in Zone V.**



- Also, in Mizoram, lie the southern most end of the Purvanchal Himalayan range. Their folded structure is a synclinorium consisting of broad synclines and tight-faulted anticlines.
- Therefore, earthquakes in this region are generally shallow, though a few quakes of intermediate depth have occurred. Most deeper earthquakes occur along and across the international border, in Myanmar's Chin Division. Earthquake activity in Tripura is mainly shallow. The Dauki Fault which follows the international border of India and Bangladesh in Meghalaya passes through northern sections of Tripura.
- The other major threat is from the Madhupur Fault in Bangladesh.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/23/why-do-earthquakes-happen-in-mizoram/>

194. 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:

- Stat1 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

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/23/india-china-border-dispute-importance-of-pangong-tso/>

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

- | Islands | Location |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Kuril Islands | Yellow Sea |
| 2. Senakaku Islands | East China Sea |
| 3. Spratly Islands | South China Sea |

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

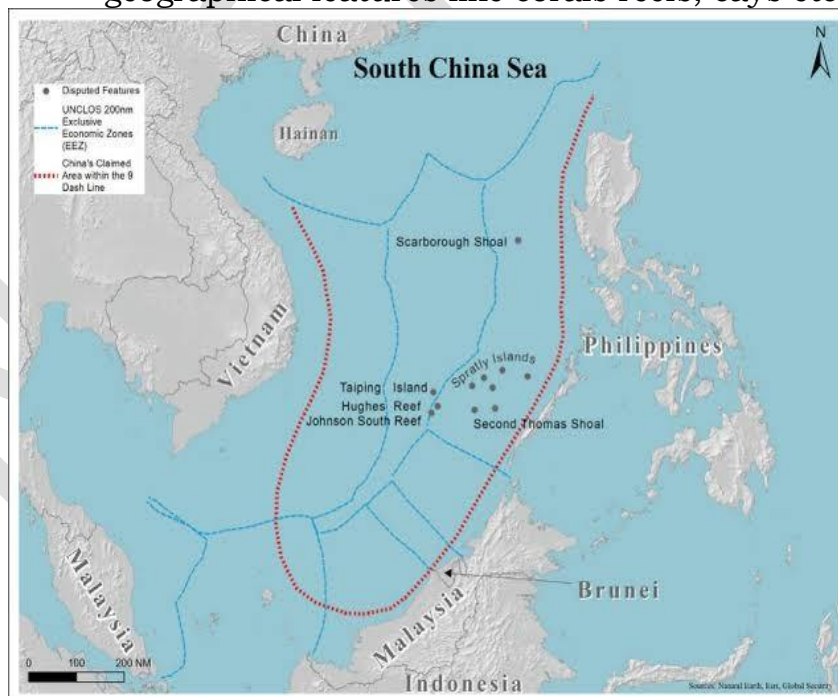
- **Kuril Islands** is a volcanic archipelago in Russia's Sakhalin Oblast that stretches approximately 1,300 km northeast from Hokkaido, Japan to Kamchatka, Russia, separating the **Sea of Okhotsk from the north Pacific Ocean**



- **The Senkaku Islands** are located in **the East China Sea** between Japan, the People's Republic of China, and the Republic of China (Taiwan). The archipelago contains five uninhabited islands and three barren rocks, ranging in size from 800 m² to 4.32 km².



-
- **What is the Spratly Islands dispute about?**
 - **Spratly Islands are a disputed archipelago in the South China Sea**
 - The ongoing territorial dispute is between China, Taiwan, Vietnam, the Philippines, and Malaysia concerning the ownership of the Spratly Islands archipelago and nearby geographical features like corals reefs, cays etc.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/23/japan-to-rename-islands-disputed-with-china/>



196. Consider the following statements about UN-Arms Trade Treaty:
1. The treaty calls for the international sale of weapons to be linked to the human rights records of buyers.
 2. The treaty regulate the domestic sale or use of weapons in any country.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation: **What does the Arms Trade Treaty seek to do?**

- It has the ambitious aim of responding to international concern that the \$70 billion a year trade in conventional weapons leaves a trail of atrocities in its wake.
- The treaty calls for **the international sale of weapons to be linked to the human rights records of buyers.**
- It requires countries to establish **regulations for selling conventional weapons.**
- It calls for **potential arms deals to be evaluated** in order to determine whether they might enable buyers to carry out genocide, crimes against humanity, or war crimes.
- The treaty also seeks to **prevent conventional military weapons from falling into the hands of terrorists or organized criminal groups**, and to stop deals that would violate UN arms embargos.
- **What types of conventional weapons deals does the Arms Trade Treaty seek to regulate?**
 - **Conventional weapons covered by the UN Arms Trade Treaty include** tanks and other armored combat vehicles, artillery, attack helicopters, naval warships, missiles and missile launchers, and small arms. It also establishes **common international standards for the regulation of the international trade in ammunition, weapons parts, and arms components.**
 - The treaty **does not regulate the domestic sale or use of weapons in any country.** It also recognizes the legitimacy of the arms trade to enable states to provide for their own security.
- **India's position on UN-Arms Trade Treaty:**
<https://www.insightsonindia.com/2019/04/27/un-arms-trade-treaty/>

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/23/china-to-join-un-arms-trade-treaty/>



197. The term “lone wolf” is used by law enforcement agencies and the media to refer to:

- (a) Cyber security
- (b) Climate change
- (c) Migrant crisis
- (d) Terrorism

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **The term “lone wolf” is used by US law enforcement agencies and the media to refer to individuals undertaking violent acts of terrorism outside a command structure.**
- A lone actor, lone-actor terrorist, or lone wolf is someone who prepares and commits violent acts alone, outside of any command structure and without material assistance from any group. They may be influenced or motivated by the ideology and beliefs of an external group and may act in support of such a group.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/23/the-lone-wolf-threat/>

198. Which among the following is the parent agency of ‘Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI)’?

- (a) Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)
- (b) Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB)
- (c) Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)
- (d) Directorate of Enforcement (ED)

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI)** is an Indian intelligence agency. It is India's chief anti-smuggling intelligence, investigations and operations agency.
- **The Directorate is run by officers from the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)** who are posted in its various Zonal Units as well as in Indian embassies abroad as part of the Customs Overseas Intelligence Network.
- **It is headed by a Director General of the rank of Special Secretary to the Government of India.**

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/23/151042/>

199. Recently which of the following has launched its flagship “Kumhar Sashaktikaran Yojana” to restore the lost glory of the pottery site?

- (a) Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)
- (b) Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)
- (c) Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT)
- (d) National Museum Institute of the History of Art, Conservation and Museology (NMIHACM)

Ans: (b)

Explanation:



- **The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has launched its flagship “Kumhar Sashaktikaran Yojana” in Rajasthan’s Pokhran, to restore the lost glory of the pottery site.**
- Under this, KVIC distributed 80 electric potter wheels to 80 potter families in Pokhran which has a rich heritage in terracotta products.
- Key facts:
 - Pokhran is one of the aspirational districts identified by the Niti Ayog.
 - Pokhran served as the test site for India’s first underground nuclear weapon, ballistic missiles

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/23/151042/>

200. ‘Kumbhar Sashaktikaran Program’ is an initiative of Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), which is an apex organization under the following ministry?

- (a) Ministry of Rural Development
- (b) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
- (c) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- (d) Ministry of Culture

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **The Khadi and Village Industries Commission is a statutory body** formed in April 1957 by the Government of India, under the Act of Parliament, 'Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act of 1956'.
- **It is an apex organisation under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises**
- **Kumbhar Sashaktikaran Program:**
 - It is an **initiative of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)** for empowerment of potters’ community in the remotest of locations in the country.
 - The program reaches out to the potters in many states including U.P., M.P., Maharashtra, J&K, Haryana, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Assam, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Telangana and Bihar.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/23/151042/>

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 24th -June-2020

201. “He was a 13th-century ruler who founded the Ahom kingdom. He is widely referred to as the architect of “Bor Asom” or “greater Assam”. To commemorate his rule, Assam celebrates “Asom Divas” on December 2 every year”. He was:

- (a) Suklingphaa
- (b) Sukhrangpha
- (c) Sukapha
- (d) Sutingphaa

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **About Sukapha:**

- He was a **13th-century ruler who founded the Ahom kingdom** that ruled Assam for six centuries. Contemporary scholars trace his roots to Burma.
- He is widely referred to as **the architect of “Bor Asom” or “greater Assam”**.
- Sukapha is said to have left a place called **Maulung** in AD 1215 with eight nobles and 9,000 men, women and children — mostly men.
- It was in **Charaideo** that Sukapha established his first small principality, sowing the seeds of further expansion of the Ahom kingdom.
- The **founders of the Ahom kingdom had their own language and followed their own religion**. Over the centuries, the Ahoms accepted the Hindu religion and the Assamese language.
- To commemorate Sukapha and his rule, Assam celebrates **“Asom Divas” on December 2 every year**.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/24/who-was-chaolung-sukapha/>

202. Consider the following statements:

1. Malabar rebellion was an unarmed uprising against British authority and Hindus in the Malabar region.
2. The prominent leaders of the rebellion were Ali Musaliyar and Variyankunnath Kunjahammed Haji.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- The **Malabar rebellion** was an **armed uprising in 1921** against **British authority** and **Hindus** in the Malabar region of Southern



India by Mappilas and the culmination of Mappila riots that recurred throughout the 19th century and early 20th century.

- The 1921 rebellion began as a reaction against a heavy-handed crackdown on the Khilafat Movement, a campaign in defense of the Ottoman Caliphate, by the British authorities in the Eranad and Valluvanad taluks of Malabar.
- There was large-scale violence which saw systematic persecution of Hindus and British officials. Many homes and temples were destroyed.
- The prominent leaders of the rebellion were **Ali Musaliyar and Variyankunnath Kunjahammed Haji**.
- From August 1921 till about the end of the year, the rebels had under their control large parts of Malabar.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/24/variyaunkunnath-kunjahammed-haji/>

203. Which of the following nations are part of 'Axis powers' that fought in World War II against the 'Allies'?

1. Germany
2. Japan
3. Brittan
4. China

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **The Axis powers**, also known as "**Rome–Berlin–Tokyo Axis**" were the nations that fought in World War II against the Allies.

MAJOR COUNTRIES INVOLVED:

Allied Powers

- a) Britain
- b) France
- c) Soviet-Union
- d) U.S.A



Axis Powers

- a) Germany
- b) Italy
- c) Japan





Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/24/what-is-victory-day/>

204. Consider the following statements:

1. Suicide is a criminal offence in India.
 2. India had the highest female suicide rate 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: (d)

Explanation:

- India has the highest suicide rate in the South-East Asian region, according to the World Health Organization report released last year.
 - **India's suicide rate is at 5 suicides per 100,000 people.**
 - **India also had the third-highest female suicide rate (14.7) in the world.**
- **Suicide was decriminalised in India in 2017, but Section 309 of the Indian Penal Code still stays.**
- Who can be booked under Section 309 IPC? What punishment does it carry?
- Anyone who survives an attempted suicide can be booked under Section 309 IPC, which deals with "Attempt to commit suicide".
- The law, brought in by the British in the 19th century, reflected the thinking of the time, when killing or attempting to kill oneself was considered a crime against the state, as well as against religion.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/24/sec-309-ipc/>

205. Recently the term 'magic remedy' is sometimes seen in the news in the context of:

- (a) Over-the-top media services
- (b) Vaccine for some disease
- (c) Objectionable Advertisements
- (d) Tribal rights

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Ramdev has claimed that '**Coronil tablet**', '**Swasari Vati**' and '**Anu Taila**' had shown "100 per cent favourable results" during clinical trials on Covid-19 patients.
- What next?
 - The AYUSH Ministry has sought details about the medicine and has directed Patanjali and Ramdev to stop advertising such claims.
 - The concerned Ayurvedic drug manufacturing company has been informed that such advertisements of drugs including Ayurvedic medicines are regulated under the **provisions of**



Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements) Act, 1954

and Rules there under and the directives issued by the Central Government in the wake of COVID outbreak.

- **Overview of the Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements) Act, 1954:**

- It prohibits advertisements of drugs and remedies that claim to have magical properties, and makes doing so a cognizable offence.
- The penalty carries a maximum sentence of 6 months imprisonment with or without fine on first conviction. In case of any subsequent conviction, the term may be up to a year.
- If the convicted party is a company, all members of the company will be deemed guilty.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/24/patanjali-coronavirus-covid-19-medicine/>

206. Consider the following statements

1. Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) exchange rates are calculated by comparing the prices of the same basket of goods and services in different countries.
2. In terms of PPP dollars, India is the third largest economy in the world.

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:

- Stat1: PPP is a theory which states that exchange rates between currencies are in equilibrium when their purchasing power is the same in each of the two countries. This means that the exchange rate between two countries should equal the ratio of the two countries' price level of a fixed basket of goods and services.
- S2: On the PPP basis, **China is the world's largest economy in 2018**, followed by United States at 2nd and **India at 3rd position**.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/24/international-comparison-program/>

207. "International Comparison Program (ICP)" is the largest worldwide data-collection initiative, under the guidance of:

- (a) World Bank (WB)
- (b) International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- (c) UN Statistical Commission (UNSC)
- (d) World Economic Forum (WEF)

Ans: (c)

Explanation:



- **International Comparison Program (ICP)** is the largest worldwide data-collection initiative, under the **guidance of UN Statistical Commission (UNSC)**.
- The goal is of producing **Purchasing Power Parities (PPPs)** which are vital for converting measures of economic activities to be comparable across economies.
- Along with the PPPs, the ICP also produces Price Level Indices (PLI) and other regionally comparable aggregates of GDP expenditure.
- **The next ICP comparison will be conducted for reference year 2021.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/24/international-comparison-program/>

208. GeM is a short form of one stop 'Government e-Market Place' hosted by:

- Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT)
- Director General Of Trade Remedies (DGTR)
- Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals (DGS&D)
- None of the above

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- GeM is a short form of one stop **Government e-Market Place** hosted by **DGS&D** where common user goods and services can be procured.
- GeM is dynamic, self-sustaining and user friendly portal for making procurement by Government officers.
- **Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals (DGS&D)** is the central purchase organization of the Indian government, functioning under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry. Its role is to finalize the rate contracts to be used by Government departments to procure items of general use.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/24/country-of-origin-in-gem-platform/>

209. Which one of the following ministry has launched the initiative 'YUKTI 2.0'?

- Ministry of Science and Technology
- Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
- Ministry of Human Resource Development
- Ministry of External Affairs

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **It is an initiative to help systematically assimilate technologies having commercial potential and information related to incubated startups in our higher education institutions.**
- **YUKTI stands for Young India combating COVID with Knowledge, Technology and Innovation.**
- **Ministry of HRD prepared the portal in view of Coronavirus.**



- Through this portal, the Ministry of Human Resource Development will endeavor to ensure that students, teachers and researchers in higher educational institutions are getting appropriate support to meet the requirements needed to advance their technologies and innovations.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/24/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-24-june-2020/>

210. 'Gaia hypothesis' is sometimes seen in the news in the context of:

- Origin of Earth
- Evolution of living creature and physical world
- Origin of Universe
- None of the above

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Gaia hypothesis** put forth by **James Lovelock** is an **ecological theory** proposing that **living creatures and the physical world are in a complex interacting system that maintains equilibrium.**

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/24/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-24-june-2020/>



RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 25th -June-2020

211. Consider the following statements about National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC):

- 102nd Constitution Amendment Act, 2018 provides constitutional status to the NCBC.
- The Commission consists of five members including a Chairperson, appointed by President by warrant under his hand and seal.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

- 1 Only



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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Stat1: The present Commission (8th) has been accorded Constitutional Status and constituted through “The Constitution **(One Hundred and Second Amendment) Act, 2018**” Act dated 11.8.2018, **whereby Article 338B has been inserted**, forming a Commission for the socially and educationally backward classes to be known as NCBC.
- Stat2: Under the Constitution Amendment Act, the NCBC will **comprise of five members appointed by the President**. Their tenure and conditions of service will also be decided by the President through rules.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/25/commission-to-examine-sub-categorization-of-other-backward-classes-3/>

212. Consider the following statements:

1. Currently, the affairs of Backwards Classes were looked after by the Backward Classes Cell in the Ministry of Home Affairs.
2. The OBCs are entitled to 27% reservations in public sector employment and higher education.

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:

- Stat1: Until 1985, the affairs of the **Backward Classes were looked after by the Backward Classes Cell** in the **Ministry of Home Affairs**. A separate Ministry of Welfare was established in 1985 (**renamed in 1998 to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment**) to attend to matters relating to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and OBCs. The Backward Classes Division of the Ministry looks after the policy, planning and implementation of programmes relating to social and economic empowerment of OBCs, and matters relating to two institutions set up for the welfare of OBCs, the **National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation** and the **National Commission for Backward Classes**.
- Stat2: Sub categorization of the OBCs will ensure that the more backward among the OBC communities can also access the benefits of reservation for educational institutions and government jobs.



- **At present, there is no sub-categorisation and 27% reservation is a monolithic entity.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/25/commission-to-examine-sub-categorization-of-other-backward-classes-3/>

213. Consider the following statements with reference to Credit Guarantee Scheme for Sub-ordinate Debt (CGSSD):

1. The scheme was announced by the Finance Minister as part of Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan.
2. The scheme seeks to extend support to the promoter(s) of the operational MSME.
3. As per the Scheme, guarantee cover worth Rs. 20,000 crores will be provided to the promoters.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- The scheme was announced by the Finance Minister as **part of the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan**.
- It is also called as “**Distressed Assets Fund–Sub-ordinate Debt for MSMEs**”.
- Overview:
 - It is a scheme **for the distressed MSME sector**.
 - The scheme seeks to **extend support to the promoter(s) of the operational MSMEs** which are stressed and have become NPAs as on 30th April, 2020.
 - As per the Scheme, guarantee cover worth **Rs. 20,000 crores** will be provided to the promoters who can take debt from the banks to further invest in their stressed MSMEs as equity.
 - The scheme will be operationalised through **Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for MSEs (CGTMSE)**.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/25/credit-guarantee-scheme-for-sub-ordinate-debt-cgssd-launched/>

214. Consider the following statements about Small Industries Development Bank of India:

1. It is a development financial institution in India.
2. It operates under the Department Of Economic Affairs.
3. Life Insurance Corporation of India is the largest individual shareholder of SIDBI.

Which of the given above statements is/are incorrect?

- (a) 1 and 2
- (b) 2 Only



(c) 2 and 3

(d) 1 and 3

Ans: (c)

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

- Stat1: **Small industrial Development Bank of India (SIDBI)** is a **development financial institution in India**, headquartered at Lucknow and having its offices all over the country
- Stat2: SIDBI operates under **the Department of Financial Services**, Government of India.
- Stat3: **State Bank of India is the largest individual shareholder of SIDBI** with holding of 16.73% shares, followed by Government of India and **Life Insurance Corporation of India**.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/25/pradhan-mantri-mudra-vojana/>

215. Consider the following statements:

1. TB is a serious infectious viral disease that mainly affects the lungs.
2. Nikshay is a TB information management system, developed and maintained by the Directorate General of Health Services (Dte.GHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

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: (d)

Explanation:

- Stat1: **Tuberculosis (TB)** is an infectious disease usually caused by **Mycobacterium tuberculosis (MTB) bacteria**. Tuberculosis generally affects the lungs, but can also affect other parts of the body
- Stat2: Nikshay is **an information management system** that acts like a one-stop solution for managing patients' information and monitor program activity and performance all over the country.
- It is developed and maintained by the **Central TB Division (CTD), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** in collaboration with **the National Informatics Centre (NIC), and the World Health Organization Country office for India**.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/25/annual-tb-report-2020-released/>

216. "Skills Build Reignite" platform has been launched jointly by:

(a) MSME and Amazon

(b) MSME and Infosys

(c) MSME and IBM

(d) MSME and Google

Ans: (c)

Explanation:



- **MSDE-IBM partnership** unveils Free Digital Learning **Platform “Skills Build Reignite”** to reach more job seekers & provide new resources to business owners in India.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/25/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-25-june-2020/>

217. Consider the following pairs :

<i>Tradition</i>	<i>State</i>
1. Chapchar Kut festival	Mizoram
2. Khongjom Parba ballad	Manipur
3. Kutchi New Year	Gujarat

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Chapchar kut festival – Mizoram
- Khongiom parba ballad- Manipur
- Kutchi New Year - Gujarat

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/25/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-25-june-2020/>

218. Arrange the following Buddhist sites in the direction of North to South:

- 1. Lumbini
- 2. Sarnath
- 3. Bodhgaya
- 4. Kushinagar

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Within the first two centuries of the Buddha's death, pilgrimage had already become an important component in the life of the Buddhist community. Throughout early Buddhist history there were at least four major pilgrimage centres—**the place of the Buddha's birth at Lumbini, the place of his enlightenment at Bodh Gaya**, the Deer Park in Varanasi (Benares), where he supposedly preached his first sermon, and the village of **Kushinara**, which was recognized as the place of his **parinibbana (final nirvana or final death)**.



Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/25/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-25-june-2020/>

219. “Act East policy” was introduced as a diplomatic initiative during the prime ministership of:

- (a) P. V. Narasimha Rao
- (b) Atal Bihari Vajpayee
- (c) Manmohan Singh
- (d) Narendra Modi

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **India’s ‘Act East’ policy is a diplomatic initiative to promote economic, strategic and cultural relations with the vast Asia-Pacific region at different levels.**
- The country’s eastward drive since 1992 has underscored the importance of this region in its contemporary international relations. ‘Act East’ and its early avatar, ‘Look East’ are not different; rather, they are two sides of the same coin, representing two different, but continuing phases in the evolution of India’s policy towards the Asia-Pacific region.
- **When India launched the Look East policy in 1991**, its own economic strength, its global status and the external environment were not what they are at present. At the time of its launch, India



was struggling to transition from a state-controlled economic regime to a more liberalized one. It took many years for the country to get adjusted to the newly emerging economic environment.

- **When in 2014, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Act East policy**, India's economy was relatively robust and its global profile was higher than it was in the decades prior. Modi gave a new thrust to intensify economic, strategic and diplomatic relations with countries that share common concerns with India on China's growing economic and military strength and its implications for the evolving regional order.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/25/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-25-june-2020/>

220. Consider the following statements regarding Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana

1. It is to promote organic farming
 2. Under this scheme, there is liability for farmers for expenditure on certification
 3. Farmers will be funded to meet the expenditure from farm to market
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana** is to promote organic farming and the products will be linked with the market. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- **There is no liability for farmers for expenditure on certification.** Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.
- It will be implemented in a cluster based approach and farmers will be funded to meet the expenditure from farm to market. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

Refer: About Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY):

<https://www.insightsonindia.com/2019/07/03/paramparagat-krishi-vikas-yojana-pkvy/>

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 26th -June-2020

221. 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) Bal Gangadhar Tilak

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/2020/06/26/pune-ngo-aims-to-revive-spirit-of-lal-bal-pal/>

222. Consider the following statements with reference to Lal- Bal- Pal triumvirate :

1. All three actively participated in the Swadeshi movement.
2. All three played key role in Non-cooperation movement.

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: **Brief overview of contributions made by Lal- Bal- Pal:**

- The triumvirate had played a stellar role in the second phase of the **Swadeshi movement** which gathered momentum after the partition of Bengal by Lord Curzon in 1905, and which called for the boycott of all imported items and the use of Indian-made goods.
- Lal-Bal-Pal mobilized Indians across the country against the Bengal partition, and the demonstrations, strikes and boycotts of British goods that began in Bengal soon spread to other regions in a broader protest against the Raj.
- **The nationalist movement gradually faded with the arrest of its main leader Bal Gangadhar Tilak and retirement of Bipin Chandra Pal and Aurobindo Ghosh from active politics.**
- **The Non-cooperation movement**



- It was launched on 5th September, 1920 by Mahatma Gandhi with the aim of self-governance and obtaining full independence as the Indian National Congress (INC) withdraw its support for British reforms following the Rowlatt Act of 21 March 1919, and the Jallianwala Bagh massacre of 14 April 1919.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/26/pune-ngo-aims-to-revive-spirit-of-lal-bal-pal/>

223. Consider the following statements:

1. The Indian Home Rule Society was an Indian organisation founded in London by Lajpat Rai.
2. In 1884, Bal Gangadhar Tilak founded the Deccan Education Society in Pune.
3. Bipin Chandra Pal is known as the Father of Revolutionary Thoughts in India.

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:

- **In 1895, Lal started the Punjab National Bank**—the first Indian bank to begin solely with Indian capital, and that continues to function till date.
- **In 1917, Lal founded the Indian Home Rule League of America there.**
- **In 1884, Tilak founded the Deccan Education Society in Pune**, and under the banner, opened the New English School for primary studies and Fergusson College for higher education.
- **Bipin Chandra Pal is known as the Father of Revolutionary Thoughts in India** and was one of the freedom fighters of India. he was of a strong opinion that a mass reliance on Swadeshi goods would help people get rid of their poverty.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/26/pune-ngo-aims-to-revive-spirit-of-lal-bal-pal/>

224. Recently 'Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report' released by:

- (a) UNICEF
- (b) UNESCO
- (c) WEF
- (d) Amnesty International

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **2020 Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report released by UNESCO.**



- In line with its mandate, the 2020 GEM Report assesses progress towards Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4) on education and its ten targets, as well as other related education targets in the SDG agenda.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/26/global-education-monitoring-gem-report/>

225. Consider the following statements about Kala Azar:

1. It is caused by a bacteria called Leishmani.
2. Sexual transmission of Kala Azar disease is possible.

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:

- Stat1: **Visceral leishmaniasis (VL), also known as kala-azar**, black fever, and Dumdum fever, is the most severe form of leishmaniasis and, without proper diagnosis and treatment, is associated with high fatality.
- Spread: **Caused by protozoan parasites of the Leishmania genus**, migrates to the internal organs such as the liver, spleen (hence “visceral”), and bone marrow
- Stat2: Source: The main route of transmission is related to the hematophagous sandfly vectors of the genus Lutzomyia (New World) and Phlebotomus (Old World). However, other routes of **transmission may be mentioned, such as sexual, vertical, hematogenic without vector and others involved in VL epidemiology.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/26/kala-azar-2/>

226. Consider the following statements:

1. Narcotics Control Bureau is the apex coordinating agency under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
2. The National Policy on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances is based on Article 47 of the Indian Constitution.
3. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime releases the World Drug Report.

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:



- The **Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)** is the nodal drug law enforcement and intelligence agency of India responsible for fighting drug trafficking and the abuse of illegal substances.
- **NCB is affiliated to Home Ministry**, which was made responsible for administering The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985
- The Director General of NCB is an officer of the Indian Police Service (IPS) or the Indian Revenue Service (IRS).
- **The Narcotics Control Bureau was created on 17 March 1986** to enable the full implementation of The **Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985** and fight its violation through the Prevention of Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988.
- India's approach towards Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances is enshrined in **Article 47 of the Constitution** of India which mandates that the '**State shall endeavour to bring about prohibition of the consumption except for medicinal purposes of intoxicating drinks and of drugs which are injurious to health**'.
- Recently UNODC released World Drug Report 2020

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/26/international-day-against-drug-abuse-and-illicit-trafficking-2020/>

227. Recently NITI Aayog and which of the following organization jointly launched the 'Decarbonizing Transport in Emerging Economies' (DTEE) project in India?

- Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI)
- Central Institute of Road Transport (CIRT)
- International Centre for Automotive Technology (ICAT)
- International Transport Forum (ITF)

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **NITI Aayog** and the **International Transport Forum (ITF)** of **OECD** jointly launched the '**Decarbonizing Transport in Emerging Economies**' (DTEE) project in India on 24 June.
- About the project:
- The ambitious five-year project will help India develop a pathway towards a low-carbon transport system through the development of modelling tools and policy scenarios.
- The project will design a tailor-made transport emissions assessment framework for India.
- The India project is carried out in the wider context of the International Transport Forum's Decarbonizing Transport initiative.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/26/decarbonizing-transport-project/>



228. Consider the following statements about Scheme for Promotion of academic and Research Collaboration (SPARC):

1. It is an initiative of Ministry of Human Resource Development.
2. Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur is the National Coordinating Institute to implement the SPARC programme.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- Stat1: **It is an initiative of the Ministry of Human Resource Development.** The scheme aims at improving the research ecosystem of India's higher educational institutions by facilitating academic and research collaborations between Indian Institutions and the best institutions in the world.
- Stat2: **Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur** is the **National Coordinating Institute** to implement the SPARC programme.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/26/scheme-for-promotion-of-academic-and-research-collaboration-sparc/>

229. First global report on the illegal wildlife trade was recently released by:

- (a) WWF
- (b) WCCB
- (c) TRAFFIC
- (d) FATF

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **First global report on the illegal wildlife trade was recently released by FATF.**
- It is called the **"Money Laundering and the Illegal Wildlife Trade" report.**
- Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has described illegal wildlife trade as a "global threat", which also has links with other organised crimes like modern slavery, drug trafficking and arms trade.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/26/global-report-on-the-illegal-wildlife-trade/>

230. Consider the following statements:

1. Madhya Pradesh (MP) is the largest wheat producing state in India.
2. 'Navigating the New Normal' campaign has been launched recently by Ministry of Human Resource Development in association with Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF).

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: (c)

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

- Stat1: **Madhya Pradesh (MP)** this year surpassed Punjab to become the number one contributor of wheat. Punjab, however, is still a way ahead from MP as far as per hectare productivity of wheat is concerned, which is around 52 per cent more (per hectare) than MP.
- Stat2: **Navigating the New Normal campaign launched by NITI Aayog, in partnership with Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), Centre for Social and Behavioural Change (CSBC), Ashoka University, and the Ministries of Health and WCD.**

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/26/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-26-june-2020/>

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 27th -June-2020

231. 'SWAYAM', an initiative of the Government of India, aims at
- (a) promoting the Self Help Groups in rural areas
 - (b) providing financial and technical assistance to young start-up entrepreneurs
 - (c) promoting the education and health of adolescent girls
 - (d) providing affordable and quality education to the citizens for free

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **SWAYAM is an Information Technology platform which will host Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) and provide high quality education on various subjects from school level-class**



9-12 to Under Graduate and Post Graduate students– covering all disciplines.

- Through this scheme the Ministry has proposed to provide high quality e-content to all colleges and universities free of cost.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/27/the-pandemic-imposes-a-steep-learning-curve/>

232. The phrase “shared vision of a common future” is sometimes mentioned in media in reference to:

- (a) Belt and Road Initiative
- (b) U.N -75 declaration
- (c) Group of Seven (G-7) club
- (d) Atmanirbhar Bharat

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **What’s the issue?**
 - Commemorative declaration marking **the 75th anniversary of the signing of the U.N. Charter** has been delayed.
- **Why?**
 - Member states could not reach an agreement on phraseology. They have objected to the use of **a phrase “shared vision of a common future”**.
 - Because, the phrase, **“community with a shared future for mankind”** is closely associated with the Chinese Communist Party (CPC) and especially Chinese President Xi Jinping as an articulation of the country’s vision for the world.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/27/u-n-75-declaration-delayed/>

233. The term ‘Five Eyes’ is sometimes mentioned in media in reference to:

- (a) the permanent members of UNSC
- (b) an intelligence alliance of some developed nations
- (c) a new missile defence system developed by USA
- (d) emerging market economies that have too much dependent on foreign investment

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **What is Five Eyes?**

- **It is an intelligence alliance comprising Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States.** These countries are parties to the multilateral UKUSA Agreement, a treaty for joint cooperation in signals intelligence.
- **Origins:** It began in 1946 when the United States and the United Kingdom agreed to an open exchange of intelligence on the communications of foreign nations. It was expanded when Canada



joined the alliance in 1948, followed by Australia and New Zealand in 1956.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/27/u-n-75-declaration-delayed/>

234. The term 'Nine-Dash line' often appears in the news in the context of the affairs of China and a group of countries known as:

- (a) Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
- (b) Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement
- (c) Association of Southeast Asian Nations
- (d) South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The nine-dash line—at various times also referred to as the ten-dash line and the eleven-dash line—refers to the undefined, vaguely located, **demarcation line used by the People's Republic of China (PRC) and the Republic of China (ROC) , for their claims of the major part of the South China Sea.**



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/27/asean-states-warn-of-u-s-china-sea-tensions/>

235. 'Environment Impact Assessment' in India is statutorily backed by

- (a) Wildlife Protection Act, 1972
- (b) Environment Protection Act, 1986
- (c) National Forest Policy, 1988
- (d) Biological Diversity Act, 2002

Ans: (b)

Explanation:



- **Environment Impact Assessment in India is statutorily backed by the Environment Protection Act, 1986 which contains various provisions on EIA methodology and process.**
- EIA is an important process for evaluating the likely environmental impact of a proposed project. It is a process whereby people's views are taken into consideration for granting final approval to any developmental project or activity. It is basically, a decision-making tool to decide whether the project should be approved or not.
- **As per the 2006 Amendments to EIA Notification, EIA cycle comprises of four stages:**
 - Screening
 - Scoping
 - Public hearing
 - Appraisal

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/27/draft-eia-notification/>

236. The term 'placebos' often appears in the news in the context of:

- (a) Chinese nuclear weapons
- (b) US H-1B visa for specialty workers
- (c) Black hole mergers
- (d) Inert tablets

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Placebos are substances that are made to resemble drugs but do not contain an active drug.**
- A placebo is made to look exactly like a real drug but **is made of an inactive substance, such as a starch or sugar.**

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/27/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-27-june-2020/>

237. Consider the following statements regarding Wetlands.

1. In India, Wetlands are regulated under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986.
2. Wetlands International is an independent, not-for-profit, global organization that works to sustain and restore wetlands and their resources for people and biodiversity.

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:



- **Wetlands are regulated under the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017.**
- The 2010 version of the Rules provided for a Central Wetland Regulatory Authority; the 2017 Rules replace it with state-level bodies and created a National Wetland Committee, which functions in an advisory role.
- The newer regulations removed some items from the definition of “wetlands” including backwaters, lagoon, creeks, and estuaries.
- **Wetlands International is a global organisation that works to sustain and restore wetlands and their resources for people and biodiversity.** It is an independent, not-for-profit, global organisation, supported by government and NGO membership from around the world.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Protecting-Indias-Wetlands.pdf>

238. Consider the following statements regarding Goldilocks zone.

1. Goldilocks zone, is the area around a star where it is not too hot and not too cold for liquid water to exist on the surface of surrounding planets.
2. Earth is the only planet in the Sun's Goldilocks zone.
3. If a planet is in the Goldilocks Zone of a star, it necessarily means the planet is going to have life or liquid water.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **The Goldilocks Zone refers to the habitable zone around a star where the temperature is just right – not too hot and not too cold - for liquid water to exist on a planet.**
- Just because a planet or moon is in the Goldilocks Zone of a star, doesn't mean it's going to have life or even liquid water.
- After all, **Earth isn't the only planet in the Sun's Goldilocks Zone** - Venus and Mars are also in this habitable zone, but aren't currently habitable.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/01/09/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-09-january-2020/>

239. Consider the following statements.

1. India is the largest producer and consumer of silk in the world.



2. India is the only country in the world that produces all 5 varieties of silk on a commercial scale.
3. Central Silk Board has initiated Silk Samagra programme to empower downtrodden, poor & backward tribal families through various activities of sericulture in the country.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **India is the 2nd largest producer of silk in the world after China.**
- **It is largest consumer of silk in the world.**
- It is the only country in the world that produces all 5 varieties of silk on a commercial scale– Mulberry, Oak Tasar & Tropical Tasar, Muga and Eri.
- Holds the global monopoly for production of the famed golden 'Muga' silk.
- **About Silk Samagra:**
 - It is initiated by the **Central Silk Board.**
 - The scheme comprises four major components viz. (i) Research & Development, Training, Transfer of Technology and Information Technology Initiatives, (ii) Seed Organizations, (iii) Coordination and Market Development and (iv) Quality Certification Systems (QCS) / Export Brand Promotion and Technology Up-gradation.
 - The main objective of the scheme is to maintain Breeders stock, Breed improvement through
 - R&D Projects, Development of mechanized practices, Technology translation through
 - Sericulture Information Linkages and Knowledge System (SILKS) Portal, Mobile Application for Stakeholders and for seed quality monitoring etc.
- **The main aim of "Silk Samagra" Scheme is to empower downtrodden, poor & backward tribal families through various activities of sericulture in the country including women.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2019/07/29/silk-samagra/>

240. Consider the following statements regarding Finance Commission.

1. The 15th Finance Commission has reduced the share of tax revenues that the Centre shares with the states from 42% to 40%.



2. The 15th Finance Commission has considered the 2011 population along with forest cover, tax effort, area of the state, and demographic performance to arrive at the states' share in the divisible pool of taxes.
3. Finance Commission can suggest measures to maintain a stable fiscal environment consistent with equitable growth.

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 Fifteenth Finance Commission (FC) has considered the 2011 population** along with forest cover, tax effort, area of the state, and “demographic performance” to arrive at the states' share in the divisible pool of taxes. As had been widely anticipated, shares of the southern states, except Tamil Nadu, have fallen — with Karnataka losing the most.
- The Fifteenth Finance Commission has reduced the vertical devolution — the share of tax revenues that the Centre shares with the states — from 42% to 41%. The Finance Commission is a **constitutionally mandated body** that decides, among other things, the sharing of taxes between the Centre and the states.
- Over the years, the terms of reference of the Commission too, have been widened. The Thirteenth Commission was told, for example, to assess the impact of the (then) proposed GST from April 1, 2010; the need to improve the quality of public expenditure; to review the finances of both the Centre and the states; to suggest measures to maintain a stable fiscal environment consistent with equitable growth; and to suggest a revised roadmap to maintain the gains of fiscal consolidation through 2015.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/02/04/recommendations-of-the-15th-finance-commission/>

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 29th -June-2020

241. Consider the following statements:



1. Lightning is an electrical discharge caused by imbalances originated from the exosphere.
 2. Lightning's extreme heat will vaporize the water inside a tree.
- 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:

- **Lightning is a giant spark of electricity in the atmosphere or between the atmosphere and the ground.**
- **In the initial stages of development, air acts as an insulator between the positive and negative charges in the cloud and between the cloud and the ground;** however, when the differences in charges becomes too great, this insulating capacity of the air breaks down and there is a rapid discharge of electricity that we know as lightning.
- Lightning can occur between opposite charges within the thunderstorm cloud (Intra Cloud Lightning) or between opposite charges in the cloud and on the ground (Cloud-To-Ground Lightning). Cloud-to-ground lightning is divided into two different types of flashes depending on the charge in the cloud where the lightning originates.
- **The Impact of a Lightning Strike**
 - **Lightning's extreme heat will vaporize the water inside a tree, creating steam that may blow the tree apart.** Cars are havens from lightning—but not for the reason that most believe. Tires conduct current, as do metal frames that carry a charge harmlessly to the ground.
 - Many houses are grounded by rods and other protection that conduct a lightning bolt's electricity harmlessly to the ground. Homes may also be inadvertently grounded by plumbing, gutters, or other materials. Grounded buildings offer protection, but occupants who touch running water or use a landline phone may be shocked by conducted electricity.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/29/wmo-findings-on-lightning-strikes/>

242. Consider the following statements:

1. Under Article 142, the Supreme Court has the power to review any of its judgments or orders.
2. Section 497 of the IPC violates rights guaranteed under Articles 14 and 21.



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:

- **Under Article 137, the Supreme Court has the power to review any of its judgments or orders.**
- Scope for review:
 - When a review takes place, the law is that it is allowed not to take fresh stock of the case but to correct grave errors that have resulted in the miscarriage of justice.
 - The court has the power to review its rulings to correct a “patent error” and not “minor mistakes of inconsequential import”.
- **About Section 497 of IPC:**
- The original judgment was by a Constitution Bench led by then chief justice Dipak Misra who found **that Section 497 (adultery) of the Indian Penal Code cannot “command” married couples to remain loyal to each other for the fear of penal punishment.**
 - Two individuals may part if one cheats, but to attach criminality to infidelity is going too far.
 - The court had reasoned that there was no data whatsoever to support claims that abolition of adultery as a crime would result in “chaos in sexual morality” or an increase of divorce.
- **Why Court struck down Section 497?**
 - Section 497 perpetuates subordinate status of women, denies dignity, sexual autonomy, and is based on gender stereotypes. Section 497 based on women as chattel, seeks to control sexuality of woman, hits the autonomy and dignity of woman.
 - **It also violates rights guaranteed under Articles 14 and 21.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/29/what-is-a-review-petition/>

243. ‘Nasha Mukht Bharat: Annual Action Plan (2020-21)’ has been launched recently by:

- (a) NITI Aayog
- (b) Narcotics Control Bureau
- (c) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- (d) Ministry of Women and Child Development

Ans: (c)



Explanation:

- **Nasha Mukht Bharat: Annual Action Plan (2020-21):**
- Launched for on the occasion of “International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking”.
- **Launched by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/29/nasha-mukt-bharat-annual-action-plan-2020-21/>

244. As per the latest classification of MSME's, consider the following statements:

1. Micro enterprises would be those with investments not exceeding Rs one crore and turnover of Rs 5 crore.
2. Small enterprises would be those with investment up to Rs 20 crore and turnover of up to Rs 75 crore.
3. Medium enterprises – as those with investments not exceeding Rs 50 crore and turnover of Rs 250 crore.

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:

- **As per the latest classification of MSME's:**
- Micro enterprises would be those with investments not exceeding Rs one crore and turnover of Rs 5 crore.
- Small enterprises would be those with investment up to Rs 10 crore and turnover of up to Rs 50 crore.
- Medium enterprises – as those with investments not exceeding Rs 50 crore and turnover of Rs 250 crore.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/29/consolidated-notification-on-msme-classification-and-registration/>

245. Consider the following statements:

1. Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis is referred as father of statistical science in India.
2. Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) is recognized as institute of national importance in 1959 act of the Indian parliament.
3. P.C. Mahalanobis was deeply influenced by Rabindranath Tagore and Brajendranath Seal.

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:

- Stat1: He is referred to as the chief architect of Indian statistical system as well as father of statistical science in India.
- Stat2: He established the **Indian Statistical Institute (ISI)** in 1931 in Kolkata. In **1959 it was made an autonomous body of Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation.**
- Stat3: **Mahalanobis, the founder of ISI, was deeply influenced by wisdom and guidance of Rabindranath Tagore and Brajendranath Seal.** Under his leadership, the institute initiated and promoted the interaction of Statistics with natural and social sciences to advance the role of Statistics as a key technology by explicating the twin aspects – its general applicability and its dependence on other disciplines for its own development. The institute is now considered as one of the foremost centres in the world for training and research in Computer science, Statistics, Quantitative Economics and related sciences.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/29/statistics-day-2/>

246. The word “Great Pause” is sometimes mentioned in media in reference to:

- (a) a geological period in the history of United Kingdom
(b) an early human species
(c) fossils of a kind of dinosaurs
(d) None of the above

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **What is Anthropause?**

- Also called as the “**Great Pause**”, it is a term coined by the researchers in the UK.
- **It refers to the coronavirus-induced lockdown period and its impact on other species.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/29/what-is-anthropause/>

247. ‘Maareech’, sometimes seen in the news, it is:

- (a) Indigenous Laser System
(b) Self-Propelled Howitzer
(c) Advanced Torpedo Defence System
(d) Squad Automatic Weapon

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **Maareech:**



- **It is an advanced anti-torpedo decoy system that is capable of being fired from all frontline ships.**
- It was recently inducted by the Indian Navy.
- Designed and developed indigenously by the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO).
- It is capable of detecting, locating and neutralizing incoming torpedo.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/29/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-29-june-2020/>

248. With reference to herbal heritage of the India. Ministry of culture has recommended planting of which of the following trees?

1. Bargad
2. Khejri
3. Peepal
4. Neem
5. Ashok

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- (a) 1, 2 and 3
- (b) 1, 3 and 5
- (c) 2, 3 and 5
- (d) All of the above

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Ministry of Culture is celebrating the “Sankalp Parva” from 28th June to 12 July 2020.**
- This initiative has been launched following the call of Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi to plant at least five trees either in Office campus or wherever it is possible in order to ensure clean and healthy environment of the country.
- **Ministry of Culture has recommended planting 5 trees: Bargad, Amla, Peepal, Ashok and Bel. These 5 trees represent the herbal heritage of the country.**

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/29/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-29-june-2020/>

249. Consider the following statements about Fishing cats:

1. It is the state animal of Odisha.
 2. It has been listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List
- Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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



(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **Fishing cats:**

- **Key facts:**
 - The fishing cat is nocturnal (active at night).
 - **State animal of West Bengal.**
 - Habitats: In India, fishing cats are mainly found in the mangrove forests of the Sundarbans, on the foothills of the Himalayas along the Ganga and Brahmaputra river valleys and in the Western Ghats.
- **Protection:**
 - **Vulnerable— IUCN Red List.**
 - CITES: Appendix II
 - Indian Wildlife Protection Act, 1972: Schedule I.
 - Fishing Cat Project, launched in 2010 started raising awareness about the Cat in West Bengal.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/29/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-29-june-2020/>

250. Consider the following statements regarding Dairy Processing and Infrastructure Development Fund:

1. It will be set up as a corpus under NABARD to ensure that Dairy Cooperatives remain competitive
2. Funding will be in the form of interest free loan to National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)

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:

- To ensure that Dairy Cooperatives remain competitive for the sustained benefit of farmers, the Government of India had announced creation of Dairy Processing and Infrastructure Development Fund under NABARD with a total corpus of Rs. 8000 crores over a period of 3 years (i.e. 2017-18 to 2019-20), in the Union Budget of 2017-18.
- **Funding will be in the form of interest-bearing loan, which will flow from National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) / National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) and in turn to eligible End Borrowers.**



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/03/09/rstv-policy-watch-dairy-sector-in-india/>

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 30th -June-2020

251. The word 'Zealandia' is sometimes mentioned in media in reference to:

- (a) a cave system found in North-East India
- (b) a geological period in the history of Indian subcontinent
- (c) an eighth continent
- (d) fossils of a kind of early Indian's

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Researchers from GNS Science in New Zealand have announced that they mapped the shape and size of the Zealandia continent in unprecedented detail.
- **Background:**
 - Scientists confirmed the existence of an **eighth continent, called Zealandia**, under New Zealand and the surrounding ocean in 2017.
 - Because 94% of Zealandia's 2 million square miles are underwater, mapping the continent is challenging.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/30/zealandia/>

252. Consider the following statements with reference to World Bank's STARS project:

1. This project is in line with the Sustainable Development Goal 4.
2. This project aims to improve the quality and governance of primary health centre in six Indian states.

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: **World Bank's STARS project:**

- STARS stands for Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States Program (STARS).



- **It is a project to improve the quality and governance of school education in six Indian states. This project is in line with the Sustainable Development Goal for education (SDG 4).**
- Six states are- Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, and Rajasthan.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/30/world-banks-stars-project/>

253. The term “Two state Solution” is sometimes mentioned in the new in the context of the affairs of

- China
- Israel
- Iraq
- Yemen

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **The two-state solution to the Israeli–Palestinian conflict envisages an independent State of Palestine alongside the State of Israel, west of the Jordan River.**
- The boundary between the two states is still subject to dispute and negotiation, with Palestinian and Arab leadership insisting on the "1967 borders", which is not accepted by Israel. The territory of the former Mandate Palestine (including Jerusalem) which did not form part of the Palestinian State would continue to be part of Israel.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/30/in-24-hours-palestine-faces-an-existential-threat/>

254. ‘West Bank’ is a landlocked territory, shares borders with:

- Syria
- Jordan
- Israel
- Egypt

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- 1 and 3
- 2 and 3
- 1, 2 and 3
- All of the above

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- 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/2020/06/30/in-24-hours-palestine-faces-an-existential-threat/>

255. With reference to Scheme for formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (FME), consider the following statements:

1. Under this scheme, Micro enterprises will get credit linked subsidy at 75 per cent of the eligible project cost with ceiling of Rs. 10 lakh.
2. The Scheme would be monitored at Centre by an Inter-Ministerial Empowered Committee (IMEC) under the Chairmanship of Minister of Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare.

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: Salient features of Scheme for formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (FME):

- Centrally Sponsored Expenditure to be shared by Government of India and States at 60:40.
- **2,00,000 micro-enterprises are to be assisted with credit linked subsidy. Micro enterprises will get credit linked subsidy at 35 per cent of the eligible project cost with ceiling of Rs. 10 lakh.**
- Beneficiary contribution will be minimum 10 per cent and balance from loan. Seed capital will be given to SHGs (Rs. four lakh per SHG) for loan to members for working capital and small tools.



- **The Scheme would be monitored at Centre by an Inter-Ministerial Empowered Committee (IMEC) under the Chairmanship of Minister, FPI.**
- A State/ UT Level Committee (SLC) chaired by the Chief Secretary will monitor and sanction/ recommend proposals for expansion of micro units and setting up of new units by the SHGs/ FPOs/ Cooperatives.
- The States/ UTs will prepare Annual Action Plans covering various activities for implementation of the scheme, which will be approved by Government of India.
- A third party evaluation and mid-term review mechanism would be built in the programme.
- National level portal would be set-up wherein the applicants/ individual enterprise could apply to participate in the Scheme. All the scheme activities would be undertaken on the National portal.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/30/scheme-for-formalization-of-micro-food-processing-enterprises-fme-2/>

256. Consider the following events:

1. Parliament of India enacted the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act.
2. Formation of the Naga Club
3. Nagaland Peace Accord signed
4. Nagaland was formed out of the Naga Hills district of Assam and the then North East Frontier Agency (NEFA) province

Which of the following is the correct chronological sequence of the above events?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pre- independence:**
- The British annexed Assam in 1826, and in 1881, the Naga Hills too became part of British India. **The first sign of Naga resistance was seen in the formation of the Naga Club in 1918**, which told the Simon Commission in 1929 “to leave us alone to determine for ourselves as in ancient times”.
- In 1946 came the Naga National Council (NNC), which declared Nagaland an independent state on August 14, 1947.
- The NNC resolved to establish a “sovereign Naga state” and conducted a “referendum” in 1951, in which “99 per cent” supported an “independent” Nagaland.



- **Post- independence:**
- On March 22, 1952, underground Naga Federal Government (NFG) and the Naga Federal Army (NFA) were formed. The Government of India sent in the Army to crush the insurgency and, **in 1958, enacted the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act.**
- Nagaland was formed out of the Naga Hills district of Assam and the then North East Frontier Agency (NEFA) province (now Arunachal Pradesh) in 1963.
- **Nagaland Peace Accord is the accord signed-in on 3 August 2015 by the Government of India and the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN) to end the insurgency**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/06/30/legitimate-concern-on-law-and-order-in-nagaland/>

257. Consider the following statements regarding Development Support Services to States for Infrastructure Projects (DSSS):

1. It is implemented by National Housing Bank.
2. The key objective behind it is creating PPP success stories and rebooting infrastructure project delivery models so a sustainable infrastructure creation cycle is established.
3. The initiative involves providing project level support from Concept plan till financial closure to State Governments and private enterprises.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Development Support Services to States for Infrastructure Projects (DSSS) is implemented by NITI Aayog** with a vision to achieve transformational, sustained delivery of infrastructure projects with state of art capacity disseminated at all levels of governance.
- **The key objective behind it is creating PPP success stories and rebooting infrastructure project delivery models so a sustainable infrastructure creation cycle is established.**
- The initiative involves providing project level support from Concept plan till **financial closure to State Governments / UTs.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/01/18/development-support-services-for-states-uts-dsss-for-infrastructure-projects/>



258. Consider the following statements regarding Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010

1. The Act specifies that NGOs require the government's permission to receive funding from abroad.
2. MPs/MLAs can accept Foreign Contributions.
3. Originally, the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act was enacted in 1976 by the Indira Gandhi led government during the Emergency.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010
- It prohibits receipt of foreign contribution "for any activities detrimental to the national interest".
- The Act specifies that NGOs require the government's permission to receive funding from abroad. The purpose is to check that foreigners are not affecting India's electoral politics, public servants, judges, journalists, NGOs etc. for wrong purposes. Hence Statement 1 is correct.
- **The following cannot accept Foreign Contributions:**
 - Election candidate
 - MPs/MLAs
 - Newspaper-walla: Correspondent, columnist, cartoonist, editor, owner, printer or publishers of a registered Newspaper
 - Public Servants: Judge, government servant or employee of any Corporation or any other body controlled or owned by the Government.
- **History of the Act**
 - **Originally, the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act was enacted in 1976 by the Indira Gandhi led government during the Emergency.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2019/02/04/ngos-and-regulation-of-their-foreign-funding/>

259. Consider the following statements regarding Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985

1. This act was amended thrice
2. No bail is granted for those persons booked under this act



3. Indian is signatory to the Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **All the statements given above are correct**
- The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act is an Act of the Parliament of India that prohibits a person to produce/manufacture/cultivate, possess, sell, purchase, transport, store, and/or consume any narcotic drug or psychotropic substance.
- **The act was amended thrice (1988, 2001 and 2014).** NDPS Act has made stringent provisions for the control and regulation of operations relating to narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.
- As per the NDPS Act, the minimum sentence for dealing with drugs is 10 years rigorous imprisonment coupled with a fine of Rs. 1 lakh. No bail is granted for those persons booked under this act.
- **The following conventions various forms of control to limit the use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances**
 - The UN Single Convention on Narcotics Drugs 1961
 - The Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971
 - The Convention on Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988
- **India is a signatory to all these three.**

Refer: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/contraband-worth-150-cr-seized-near-andaman/article30374252.ece>

260. '16+1 format', sometime seen in the news, is

- (a) Partnership between United States and other 16 Western European countries
- (b) Partnership between China and other 16 Central and Eastern European countries
- (c) WTO agreement between Developed and Developing countries
- (d) ASEAN strategy to negotiate RCEP agreement with other countries

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Chinese infrastructure investment in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) is on the rise, according to data collected by Reconnecting Asia in collaboration with the Financial Times. A focal point of this



investment is the 16+1 format, which brings together China and 16 CEE countries. In November, at the sixth annual 16+1 summit, Chinese premier Li Keqiang announced an additional \$2.4 billion in development-oriented financial cooperation loans.

Refer: <https://www.csis.org/analysis/will-chinas-161-format-divide-europe>

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