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Table of Contents

RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 1 st -May-2020	5
RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 2 st -May-2020	11
RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 4 th -May-2020	18
RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 5 th -May-2020	26
RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 6 th -May-2020	32
RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 7 th -May-2020	39
RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 8 th -May-2020	47
RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 9 th -May-2020	54
RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 11 th -May-2020	60
RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 12 th -May-2020	68
RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 13 th -May-2020	74
RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 14 th -May-2020	80
RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 15 th -May-2020	86
RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 16 th -May-2020	93
RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 18 th -May-2020	102
RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 18 th -May-2020	107
RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 20 th -May-2020	113
RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 21 th -May-2020	119
RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 22 th -May-2020	125
RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 23 th -May-2020	131
RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 25 th -May-2020	139
RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 26 th -May-2020	145
RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 27 th -May-2020	152
RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 28 th -May-2020	158
RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 29 th -May-2020	166
RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 30 th -May-2020	172


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

1. Consider the following statements:

1. The PPP model of the Common Service Centres (CSC) scheme envisages a 2-tier structure
2. CSC Project is one of the approved projects under the Integrated Mission Mode Projects of the National eGovernance Plan

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: (b)

Explanation:

- Stat1: **The CSC is a strategic cornerstone of the National e-Governance Plan (NeGP)**, approved by the Government in May 2006, as part of its commitment in the National Common Minimum Programme to introduce e-governance on a massive scale.
 - The Scheme creates a conducive environment for the private sector and NGOs to play an active role in implementation of the CSC Scheme, thereby becoming a partner of the government in development of rural India. The PPP model of the **CSC scheme envisages a 3-tier structure** consisting of the **CSC operator** (called Village Level Entrepreneur or VLE); the **Service Centre Agency** (SCA), that will be responsible for a division of 500-1000 CSCs; and a **State Designated Agency** (SDA) identified by the State Government responsible for managing the implementation in the entire State.
- Stat2: It is also one of the approved projects under the Integrated Mission Mode Projects of the National eGovernance Plan.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/01/commom-service-centres-2/>

2. “The task force headed by Atanu Chakraborty”, sometimes mentioned in the news, it was:

- (a) formed to enable COVID-19 related research and vaccine development
- (b) Set up to oversee interstate coordination, monitoring and resolution of issues relating to migrant workers
- (c) An inter-agency task force has been set up to provide support to foreign workers and dormitory operators
- (d) To identify infra projects for Rs 100 Lakh Crore investment

Ans: (d)



Explanation: The task force headed by **Atanu Chakraborty** on **National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP)** has submitted its final report to the Finance Minister.

Important recommendations and observations made:

- Investment needed: ₹111 lakh crore over the next five years (2020-2025) to build infrastructure projects and drive economic growth.
- Energy, roads, railways and urban projects are estimated to account for the bulk of projects (around 70%).
- The centre (39 percent) and state (40 percent) are expected to have an almost equal share in implementing the projects, while the private sector has 21 percent share.
- Aggressive push towards asset sales.
- Monetisation of infrastructure assets.
- Setting up of development finance institutions.
- Strengthening the municipal bond market.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/01/report-on-national-infrastructure-pipeline-nip/>

3. Consider the following statements about Jal Shakti Abhiyan:

1. The focus of the campaign is on water stressed districts and blocks.
2. The campaign will run through citizen participation.

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: **Jal Shakti Abhiyan:**

- It is a time-bound, mission-mode campaign.
- Launched in 2019, **it covered 256 water stressed districts across the country.**
- **The campaign will run through citizen participation.**
- It is also a mass movement to bring all the stakeholders under one ambit of water conservation drive.
- It is a collaborative effort of various Ministries of the Government of India and State Governments, being coordinated by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/01/jal-shakti-abhiyan-3/>

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

- | <i>GI Tags</i> | <i>State</i> |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Black rice | Manipur |
| 2. Kovilpatti Kadalai Mittai | Kerala |
| 3. Kandhamal Haladi | Odisha |

Select the correct answer using the code below:



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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Black rice variety (Manipur)** Chak-Hao, scented glutinous rice popularly known as Black Rice which is cultivated in Manipur since centuries and popular to people apart from the State has got GI (Geographical Indications) registration after almost a yearlong battle for registration competing with other States of India
- **Kovilpatti Kadalai Mittai (Tamil Nadu)** is a pea nut candy made in southern parts of Tamil Nadu. The candy is prepared from ground nut and jaggery. The water is exclusively used from the river Thamirabarani.
- **Odisha's Kandhamal Haldi:** Turmeric is the main cash crop of tribal people in Kandhamal. Apart from domestic use, turmeric is also used for cosmetic and medicinal purposes.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/01/gi-tags-to-new-products/>

5. Consider the following statements:

1. In India, the first celebration of the Labour Day was organised in Kochi on May 1, 1923.
2. Labour Kisan Party of Hindustan was founded by Namboodiripad, C. K. Chandrappan and A. K. Gopalan on 1 May 1923.

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:

- **Labour Kisan Party of Hindustan** was a political party in India.
- The party was founded by **Singaravelu Chettiar on 1 May 1923 in Madras.**
- This was the first May Day celebration in India. This was also the first time the red flag was used in India.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/01/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-1-may-2020/>

6. 'Bank of Schemes, Ideas, Innovation and Research portal' has been launched by:

- (a) Reserve Bank of India
- (b) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
- (c) Ministry of Finance



(d) Both (a) and (c)

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Launched by Union Ministry of MSME.**
- The Portal gives access to all Schemes of Union, State and UT Governments. It has the provision for uploading Ideas, Innovations & Researches in the sector.
- The portal has unique features of not only crowd sourcing of Ideas, but also evaluation and rating the ideas by crowd sourcing. It can also facilitate inflow of venture capital, foreign collaboration etc.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/01/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-1-may-2020/>

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

<i>Terrorist Org's</i>	<i>Headquarters</i>
1. Hezbollah	Gaza Strip
2. Boko Haram	Nigeria
3. Houthi	Yemen
4. Taliban	Iraq

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Hezbollah: Lebanon
- Taliban: Afghanistan, Pakistan

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/01/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-1-may-2020/>

8. "Ocean deoxygenation : everyone's problem" is a report released by

- (a) The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
(b) The World Meteorological Organisation (WMO)
(c) The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
(d) The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **IUCN Report Urges Action to Stop Ocean Deoxygenation**
- The ocean represents 97% of the physical habitable space on the planet and is central to sustaining all life on Earth. Since 2000 significant and dedicated effort has been directed at raising awareness and understanding of the consequences of greenhouse gas emissions on the ocean. Carbon dioxide emitted by human activities is driving the ocean towards more acidic conditions. Only



in the past decade has it started to become more widely recognized that the temperature of the global ocean is also being significantly affected as a result of the effect that the carbon dioxide and other potent greenhouse gases are having in the Earth's atmosphere.

- The heating of seawater and progressive acidification are not the only major global consequences of greenhouse gases emissions in the marine realm. It has been known for some decades that nutrient run-off from agriculture causes oxygen-depleted zones to form in the sea, as life-giving oxygen is used up in the water column and on the sea floor. **This phenomenon is called 'ocean deoxygenation'. Ocean deoxygenation: everyone's problem tells the scale and nature of the changes being driven by ocean deoxygenation.**

Refer: <https://www.iucn.org/theme/marine-and-polar/our-work/climate-change-and-oceans/ocean-deoxygenation>

9. "A Race We Can Win. A Race We Must Win", sometimes mentioned in the news, is related to:

- (a) Theme of UNEP Summit-2019
- (b) Theme of G20 Summit-2020
- (c) Theme of UN Climate Action Summit-2019
- (d) Theme of International Labour Organization Summit-2020, on 'Migrant Workers'

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **The UN 2019 Climate Summit convened on the theme, "Climate Action Summit 2019: A Race We Can Win. A Race We Must Win."**
- The goal of the summit was to further climate action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to prevent the mean global temperature from rising by more than 1.5 °C (2.7 °F) above preindustrial levels.

Refer: <https://www.un.org/en/un75/climate-crisis-race-we-can-win>

10. The Global Carbon Project (GCP) is an organisation that seeks to quantify global greenhouse gas (GHGs) emissions and their causes. With reference to this, its projects include global budgets for which of the following greenhouse gases?

1. Carbon dioxide
2. Carbon monoxide
3. Methane
4. Sulphur dioxide
5. Nitrous oxide

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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



(d) All of the above

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Formed in 2001** to help the international science community to establish a common, mutually agreed knowledge base that supports policy debate and action to slow the rate of increase of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.
- **It is a Global Research Project of Future Earth and a research partner of the World Climate Research Programme.**
- It works collaboratively with the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme, the World Climate Programme, the International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change and Diversitas, under the Earth System Science Partnership.
- Its projects include global budgets for three dominant greenhouse gases — **CO₂, methane, and nitrous oxide** — and complementary efforts in urban, regional, cumulative, and negative emissions.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2019/12/05/global-carbon-project-2/>





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

11. Consider the following statements:

1. The main objective of the 'One Nation One Ration Card (RC)' Scheme is to introduce nation-wide portability of ration card holders under National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA).
2. Each Antyodaya (AAY) household is entitled to 5 kilograms of food grain per member per month

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:

- **One Nation One Ration Card (RC)** will ensure all beneficiaries especially migrants can access PDS across the nation from any PDS shop of their own choice.
 - **Benefits:** no poor person is deprived of getting subsidised foodgrains under the food security scheme when they shift from one place to another. It also aims to remove the chance of anyone holding more than one ration card to avail benefits from different states.
 - **Significance:** This will provide freedom to the beneficiaries as they will not be tied to any one PDS shop and reduce their dependence on shop owners and curtail instances of corruption.
- **Ration cards** are an official document **issued by state governments** in India to households that are eligible to purchase subsidized food grain from the **Public Distribution System (under the National Food Security Act)**. They also serve as a common form of identification for many Indians.
- Under the National Food Security Act, all state governments in India have to identify households that are eligible for purchasing subsidized food grain from the Public Distribution System and provide them with ration cards. There are two types of ration cards under NFSA:
 - **Priority ration card** - priority ration cards are issued to households that meet the eligibility criteria set by their state government. Each priority household is entitled to **5 kilograms of food grain per member per month**.
 - **Antyodaya (AAY)** ration cards are issued to "poorest of poor" households. Each AAY household is entitled to **35 kilograms of food grain per month**.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/02/one-nation-one-ration-card-scheme-2/>

12. Consider the following statements about 'Acute Encephalitis Syndrome':

1. It is a neurological disorder which affects the brain and the limbic system when a specific strain of virus or a bacteria attacks the body.
 2. It predominantly affects population below 15 years.
 3. AES spreads through contaminated surfaces.
- 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: Recognised as AES, it is a **neurological disorder which affects the brain and the limbic system when a specific strain of virus or a bacteria attacks the body**. In the recent case, the virus found in the lychee fruit entered the body and attacked the immune system as well as the brain. Since the disease majorly inflames the vessels in the brain, it is also known as brain fever.
- Stat2: It **predominantly affects population below 15 years**. There is seasonal and geographical variation in the causative organism.
- Stat3: Just like other viral strains, **AES spreads through contaminated surfaces**. "Viruses such as enteroviruses may be contracted through contaminated water. Once infected the patient can infect more individuals through their secretions and saliva. In Bihar, it has been reported that the victims might have ingested toxins from the affected lychee fruit."

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/02/acute-encephalitis-syndrome-aes-3/>

13. Consider the following statements:

1. India's gross expenditure in R&D has tripled between 2008 and 2018.
2. According to WIPO, India's Patent Office stands at the 7th position among the top 10 Patent Filing Offices 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: (c)

Explanation: R&D Statistics and Indicators 2019-20 is based on the national S&T survey 2018 brought out by the National Science and Technology Management Information (NSTMIS), Department of Science and Technology (DST).

Key findings:



- **India's gross expenditure in R&D has tripled between 2008 & 2018** driven mainly by Govt sector and scientific publications have risen placing the country internationally among the top few.
- With the rise in publication, the country is globally at the 3rd position on this score as per the NSF database, 3rd in the number of Ph.D. in science & engineering.
- Women participation in extramural R&D projects has increased significantly to 24% in 2016-17 from 13% in 2000-01 due to various initiatives undertaken by the Government in S&T sector.
- India's per capita R&D expenditure has increased to PPP \$ 47.2 in 2017-18 from PPP \$ 29.2 in 2007-08.
- India spent 0.7% of its GDP on R&D in 2017-18, while the same among other developing BRICS countries was Brazil 1.3%, Russian Federation 1.1%, China 2.1% and South Africa 0.8%.
- **According to WIPO, India's Patent Office stands at the 7th position among the top 10 Patent Filing Offices in the world.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/02/research-development-rd-statistics-and-indicators-2019-20-report/>

14. 'e-RMB', sometimes mentioned in the news, is related to:

- (a) Core Banking Solution of People's Bank of China
- (b) New COVID19 rapid test
- (c) The digital currency
- (d) An electronic currency trading portal

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **The digital currency – known as the e-RMB** – “will not be issued in large amounts” for public use in the short term, and the digital currency in circulation would “not lead to an inflation surge”.
- Initially it will be tested in three major cities of Shenzhen, Suzhou and Chengdu.
- **People's Bank of China (PBOC), the country's central bank**, will be the sole issuer of the digital yuan, initially offering the digital money to commercial banks and other operators.
- Public would be able to convert money in their bank accounts to the digital version and make deposits via electronic wallets.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/02/chinas-central-bank-digital-currency/>

15. Global Energy Review 2020 has been released by:

- (a) International Renewable Energy Association (IRENA)
- (b) World Economic Forum (WEF)
- (c) International Energy Agency (IEA)
- (d) International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

Ans: (c)

Explanation:



- **International Energy Agency (IEA)** has released its **Global Energy Review 2020 report**.
- **Key findings:**
 - Global energy demand is projected to fall six per cent in 2020.
 - This will be steepest decline in percentage terms in 70 years and the largest ever in absolute terms.
 - All fuels except renewables are set to experience their greatest contractions in demand for decades.
 - The projected 6% decline would be more than seven times the impact of the 2008 financial crisis on global energy demand, reversing the growth of global energy demand over the last five years.
 - According to the report advanced economies will experience the greatest declines in energy demand in 2020.
 - In India, energy demand would decline for the first time, following on from low demand growth in 2019.
 - Global oil demand in 2020 is projected to drop by 9 per cent or 9 million barrels per day on an average across the year, returning oil consumption to 2012 levels.
 - Global coal demand is projected decline by 8 per cent, in large part because electricity demand will be nearly 5 per cent lower over the course of the year.
 - Global Electricity Demand has been declined by 20% during periods of full lockdown in several countries. However, the residential demand is outweighed by reductions in commercial and industrial operations.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/02/global-energy-review-2020/>

16. Consider the following statements about International Energy Agency:
1. It is a Geneva-based autonomous intergovernmental organization established in the framework of the OECD in 1974 in the wake of the 1973 oil crisis.
 2. The IEA acts as a policy adviser to its member states, but also works with non-member countries, especially China, India, and Russia.
- 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:

- **Established in 1974 as per framework of the OECD, IEA is an autonomous intergovernmental organisation.**
- **MISSION** – To ensure reliable, affordable and clean energy for its member countries and beyond.



- Its mission is guided by four main areas of focus: energy security, economic development, environmental awareness and engagement worldwide
- **Headquarters** (Secretariat): Paris, France.
- **Roles and functions:**
 - Established in the wake of the 1973-1974 oil crisis, to help its members respond to major oil supply disruptions, a role it continues to fulfill today.
 - IEA's mandate has expanded over time to include tracking and analyzing global key energy trends, promoting sound energy policy, and fostering multinational energy technology cooperation.
- **Composition and eligibility:**
 - It has 30 members at present. IEA family also includes eight association countries.
 - **A candidate country must be a member country of the OECD. But all OECD members are not IEA members.**
- **To become member a candidate country must demonstrate that it has:**
 - Crude oil and/or product reserves equivalent to 90 days of the previous year's net imports, to which the government has immediate access (even if it does not own them directly) and could be used to address disruptions to global oil supply.
 - A demand restraint programme to reduce national oil consumption by up to 10%.
 - Legislation and organisation to operate the Co-ordinated Emergency Response Measures (CERM) on a national basis.
 - Legislation and measures to ensure that all oil companies under its jurisdiction report information upon request.
 - Measures in place to ensure the capability of contributing its share of an IEA collective action.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/02/global-energy-review-2020/>

17. Which of the following products has/have 'Geographical Indication' status?

1. Kashmir Saffron
2. Kaji Nemu
3. Khola Chilli
4. Gulbarga Tur Dal

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation: list of geographical indications tagged products is given below:



- Gulbarga Tur Dal-Karnataka
- Kaji Nemu – Assam
- Khola Chilli – Goa
- The Saffron cultivated in the Kashmir valley has received Geographical Indication Tag.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/02/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-2-may-2020/>

18. What is Thikri pehra?

- (a) It is the term used primarily by various castes who traditionally pursued agriculture as a profession in the Indian states of Haryana.
- (b) It is community policing practiced in Punjab and Haryana.
- (c) It is a wheel used in irrigation in medieval India.
- (d) None of the above

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **It is community policing practiced in Punjab and Haryana.**
- The tradition made a comeback after more than two decades — communities guarded their villages in the aftermath of terrorist movement and when the infamous Kala Kachcha gang gave locals sleepless nights years ago.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/02/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-2-may-2020/>

19. Consider the following statements:

1. It is known as the festival of festivals, it has a tradition of more than 200 years.
2. This spectacular event was started by Sakthan Thampuran, the erstwhile ruler of Kochi.
3. Held on the Moolam asterism in the Malayalam month of Medam (April-May).

The above given statements describes which one of the following festival?

- (a) Onam
- (b) Pookalam
- (c) Vallamkali
- (d) Thrissur Pooram

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Known as the festival of festivals, Thrissur Pooram** has a tradition of more than 200 years.
- This spectacular event was started by Sakthan Thampuran, the erstwhile ruler of Kochi.



- Held on the Moolam asterism in the Malayalam month of Medam (April-May), festival related events take place at the Vadakkumnathan temple situated in the heart of Thrissur town and the adjoining Thekkinkadu ground.
- The pooram festival mainly happens between two groups representing the geographic divisions of Paramekkavu and Thiruvambadi. They will compete in their respective presentations of richly caparisoned elephants, traditional orchestra called panchavadyam, the swift and rhythmic changing of brightly coloured and sequined parasols called kudamattom and the dazzling fireworks in the early morning hours are the festival highlights.
- Why in News?
 - For the first time since its inception, Thrissur Pooram will be observed with rituals within the temple premises with just a few participants. This was done in the wake of the lockdown to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/02/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-2-may-2020/>

20. Recently, excavations at Keezhadi has been in news in reference to:
- (a) The DNA analysis of some skeletal remains found at this site, have questioned the Aryan invasion theory
 - (b) A largest necropolis of the late Harappan period found at this site, is located on the left bank of the river Yamuna
 - (c) It reveals the urbanisation of Vaigai plains happened earlier than thought – around the 6th century BC.
 - (d) Discovery of Neolithic Age Siva Linga.

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Carbon samples collected from Keezhadi, the Sangam-era site, have been found to belong to 580 BC, according to accelerator mass spectrometry dating results.**
- This suggests that the urbanisation of Vaigai plains happened earlier than thought – around the 6th century BC.
- **Key findings and revelations:**
 - Tamil Brahmi script originated in the 6th century BC. People were either literate or at least knew the art of writing as early as the 6th century BC.
 - Literate society: Tamil Brahmi letters found were inscribed when the pot was wet or after the pot became dry. This clearly suggests literacy levels in the 6th century BC.
 - Agrarian society that reared cattle: Skeletal fragments of cow/ox, buffalo, sheep, goat, nilgai, blackbuck, wild boar and peacock were found.



- Good quality materials used for building: The brick and roof tiles contained more than 80% silica mixed with 7% lime while lime plaster possessed 97% of lime.
- High standard of living: Long walls, Well-laid floors along with roof tiles in a collapsed state, iron nails fastened to the poles and rafters prove a high standard of living during the Sangam age.
-

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2019/09/21/sangam-civilisation-older-than-thought/>

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 4th -May-2020

21. Consider the following statements 'BharatMarket':

1. It is a one-stop National Public Procurement Portal to facilitate online procurement of common use Goods & Services
2. It also provides the tools of e-bidding and reverse e-auction to facilitate the users achieve the best value for their money

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **About BharatMarket:** The marketplace will integrate capabilities of various technology companies to provide end-to-end services in the logistics and supply chains from manufacturers to end consumers, including deliveries at home.
 - The e-commerce portal will include a nationwide participation by retailers.
 - This endeavour aims to bring 95 per cent of retail traders onboard the platform, who will be the shareholders and the portal will be run exclusively by the traders.
- **About Government e Marketplace (GeM):**
 - GeM is a state-of-the-art **national public procurement platform** of **Ministry of Commerce and Industries** that has used technology to remove entry barriers for bonafide sellers and has created a vibrant e-marketplace with a wide range of goods and services.



- Aim: GeM aims to enhance transparency, efficiency and speed in public procurement.
- **Features:** It facilitates online procurement of common use Goods & Services required by various Government Departments / Organisations / PSUs. It provides the tools of **e-bidding, reverse e-auction and demand aggregation** to facilitate the government users, achieve the best value for their money.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/04/bharatmarket/>

22. Consider the following statements about Bay of Bengal Boundary Layer Experiment (BoBBLE):

1. It is a joint India-US project.
2. It seeks to examine the impact of ocean processes in the Bay of Bengal (BoB) on the monsoon system.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **About BOBBLE:**

- BoBBLE is a joint India-UK project.
- It seeks to examine the impact of ocean processes in the Bay of Bengal (BoB) on the monsoon system.
- It is a project funded by Union Ministry of Earth Sciences and the Natural Environment Research Council of UK.
- The Bay of Bengal (BoB) plays a fundamental role in controlling the weather systems that make up the South Asian summer monsoon system.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/04/bay-of-bengal-boundary-layer-experiment-or-bobble/>

23. Consider the following statements:

1. During an El Nino, the Pacific's warmest surface waters sit offshore of northwestern South America
2. The location of tropical storms shifts westward during an El Nino
3. During the La Nino, waters of the tropical eastern Pacific are colder than normal and trade winds are weaker than usual

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

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

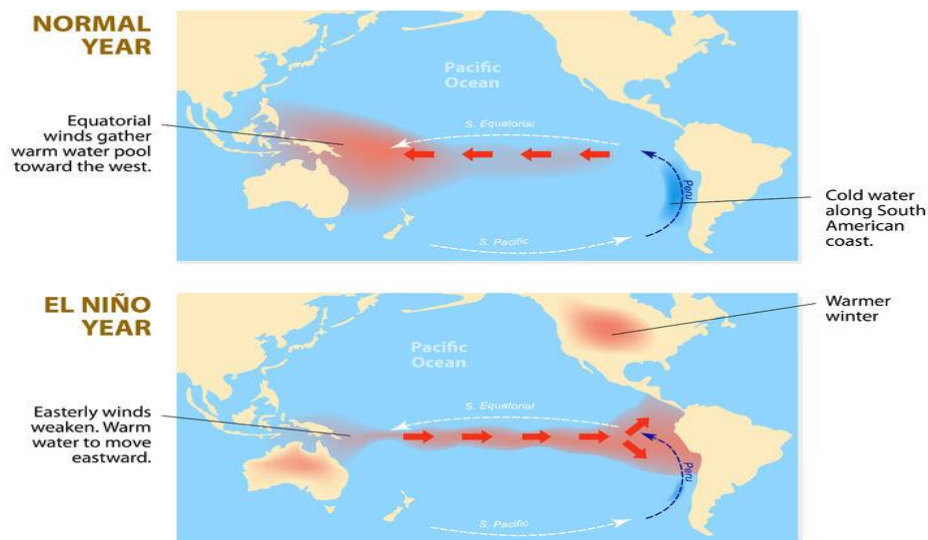
Ans: (c)

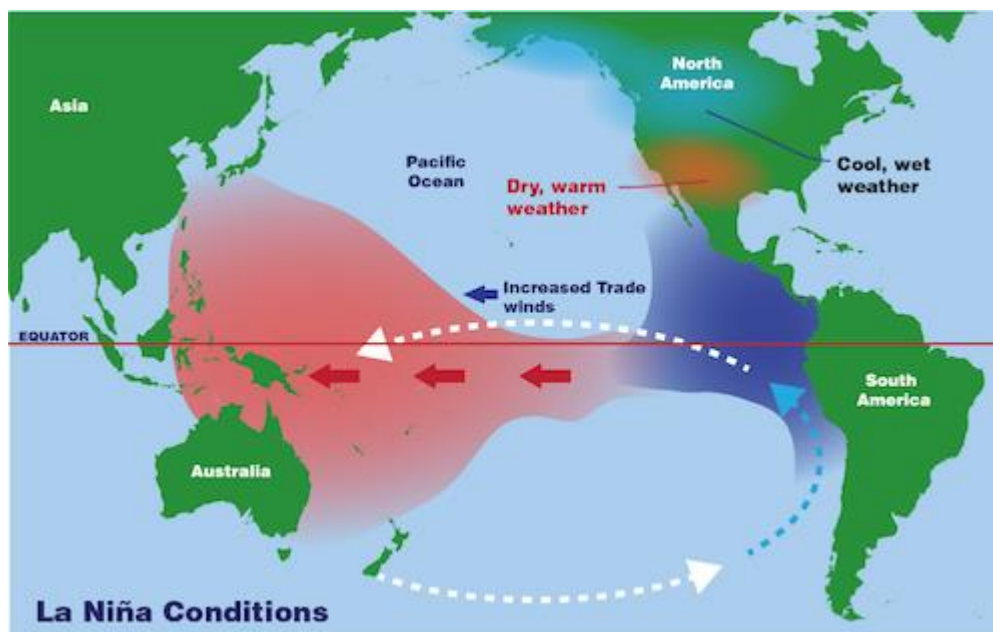
Explanation: **Here Directive word is not correct!!**



- Stat1: El Niño is a climate cycle in the Pacific Ocean with a global impact on weather patterns.
 - The cycle begins when warm water in the western tropical Pacific Ocean shifts eastward along the equator toward the coast of South America. Normally, this warm water pools near Indonesia and the Philippines. During an El Niño, the Pacific's warmest surface waters sit offshore of northwestern South America.
- Stat2: **The location of tropical storms shifts eastward during an El Niño** because atmospheric moisture is fuel for thunderstorms, and the greatest amount of evaporation takes place above the ocean's warmest water.
- Stat3: There is also an opposite of an El Niño, called **La Niña**. This refers to times **when waters of the tropical eastern Pacific are colder than normal and trade winds blow more strongly than usual**.
- Collectively, El Niño and La Niña are parts of an oscillation in the ocean-atmosphere system called the El Niño-Southern Oscillation, or ENSO cycle, which also has a neutral phase

THE EL NIÑO PHENOMENON





Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/04/bay-of-bengal-boundary-layer-experiment-or-bobble/>

24. With reference to Non-Aligned Movement, consider the following statements:

1. NAM is the second-largest platform globally in terms of country membership after the UN
2. The Asian-African Conference of 1955 held in Bandung was the catalyst for the establishment of the NAM
3. The actual formation took place in Singapore, where the Non-Aligned Movement was formally established by the leaders of 25 developing countries in 1961

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Stat1 &2 : Non-Aligned Movement is an idea that emerged in 1950. **NAM is the second-largest platform globally in terms of country membership after the UN.** It currently has more than 120 members. **The Asian-African Conference of 1955 held in Bandung was the catalyst for the establishment of the Non-Aligned Movement.**
- Stat3: The actual formation took place in **Belgrade**, where the Non-Aligned Movement was formally established by the leaders of 25 developing countries in 1961.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/04/non-aligned-movement-summit-2/>

25. Consider the following statements:

1. The Earth's magnetic field has reversed every few hundred thousand years.
2. Magnetosphere contains the Van Allen radiation belts,
3. When living organisms originated, they modified the early atmosphere of the Earth.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Stat1: A change in the Earth's magnetic field resulting in the magnetic north being aligned with the geographic south, and the magnetic south being aligned with the geographic north is called as geomagnetic reversal. Complete magnetic reversals have happened every 200,000 to 300,000 years over the past 20 million years. But that regularity hasn't continued, as the last known reversal occurred roughly 780,000 years ago.
- Stat2: In the upper regions of the ionosphere, beginning several hundred kilometres above Earth's surface and extending tens of thousands of kilometres into space, is the **magnetosphere, a region where the behaviour of charged particles is strongly affected by the magnetic fields of Earth and the Sun**. It is in the lower part of the magnetosphere that overlaps with the ionosphere that the spectacular displays of the aurora borealis and aurora australis take place. **The magnetosphere also contains the Van Allen radiation belts**, where highly energized protons and electrons travel back and forth between the poles of Earth's magnetic field.
- Stat3: When living organisms originated, they did not affect the early atmosphere because they lacked the ability to do so. **Early atmosphere of earth was modified by solar winds**. This happened not only in case of the earth, but also in all the terrestrial planets, which were supposed to have lost their primordial atmosphere through the impact of solar winds
 - The first non-cellular forms of life could have originated 3 billion years back....(then) About 2000 million years ago the first cellular forms of life appeared on earth. Early atmosphere of earth had no free oxygen, the (life) forms until then could at best be only "anaerobic".
 - For several eons prior to the evolution of cyanobacteria, during the Archean eon, more primitive microbes lived anaerobically, without utilizing oxygen. These ancient organisms—and their



“extremophile” descendants today—thrived in the absence of oxygen, relying on sulfate for their energy needs.

- Life started to have a major impact on the environment ONLY once cyanobacteria or photosynthetic organisms evolved. These organisms, blue-green algae, fed off atmospheric carbon dioxide and converted much of it into marine sediments consisting of the shells of sea creatures.
- Oxygen was first produced somewhere around 2.7 billion to 2.8 billion years ago. The early atmosphere is much older than that (between 4.5 billion years ago to 2.5 billion years ago).

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/04/magnetosphere/>

26. Consider the following statements:

1. ‘eCovSens’ is a biosensor that can detect the novel coronavirus in saliva samples has been developed by Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT), Pune.
2. ATULYA, the microwave steriliser has been developed by researchers from the National Institute of Animal Biotechnology (NIAB), Hyderabad.

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:

- **ATULYA:**

- It is a cost-effective solution to disintegrate corona virus.
- This microwave steriliser can be operated in portable or fixed installations and helps in disintegrating the virus by differential heating in the range of 56 to 60 Celsius temperatures.
- **Developed by Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT), Pune.**

- **eCovSens:**

- It is a biosensor that can detect the novel coronavirus in saliva samples.
- **It has been developed by researchers from the National Institute of Animal Biotechnology (NIAB), Hyderabad.**
- The device gives results within 30 seconds using just 20 microlitres of the sample.
- How it works? The device consists of a carbon electrode and the coronavirus antibody. The antibody is capable of binding with the spike protein found on the outer layer of the virus. An electrical signal is generated when the antigen and antibody binds.



Refer: facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/04/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-4-may-2020/>

27. The Global Climate Risk Index-2020 was recently released by

- (a) UNEP
- (b) Future earth
- (c) WEF
- (d) GermanWatch

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The international environmental think tank '**Germanwatch**' has recently released the **Global Climate Risk Index 2020**.
- The annually published Risk Index analyses to what extent countries have been affected by the impacts of weather-related loss events (storms, floods, heat waves etc.).
- Germanwatch, based in Bonn and Berlin (Germany), is an independent development and environmental organisation which works for sustainable global development.
- **Key findings: On India:**
 - India is the fifth most vulnerable country to climate change.
 - In 2020, India's rank has worsened from the 14th spot in 2017 to 5th in 2018 in the global vulnerability.
 - India has also recorded the highest number of fatalities due to climate change and the second highest monetary losses from its impact in 2018.
 - India's high rank is due to severe rainfalls, followed by heavy flooding and landslide that killed over 1000 people.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2019/12/06/global-climate-risk-index-2020/>

28. Consider the following statements:

1. WAYU (Wind Augmentation Purifying Unit) is an air pollution control device which can purify air in an area up to 5Km
2. It was developed by 'Environmental Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority (EPCA)' as a part of technology development project

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation: About WAYU (Wind Augmentation Purifying Unit):

- WAYU is developed by Council of Scientific and Industrial Research – **National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-NEERI)** as a part of Technology Development Project funded by Department of Science and Technology.
- The device has the capacity to purify air in an area of **500 meter square**. The device consumes only half a unit of electricity for 10



hours of running and has a maintenance cost of only Rs. 1500 per month.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2018/09/28/insights-daily-current-affairs-28-september-2018/>

29. Consider the following pairs:

<i>National Park</i>	<i>Rivers flowing through the Park</i>
1. Corbett NP	Ganga
2. Kaziranga NP	Manas
3. Silent Valley NP	Kaveri

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Corbett NP: Ram Ganga river (Tributary of Ganga)
- Kaziranga NP: Brahmaputra river
- Silent Valley NP: Bhavani river (Tributary of Kaveri)

30. Consider the following statements:

1. The area lies along a patch where the Nallavagu and Dindi rivers merge
 2. This area is dominated by Chenchus, a Scheduled Tribe
 3. In 2017, the endangered species of mouse deer was introduced here
- The above given statements refer to which one of the following Tiger reserves?

- (a) Biligiri Rangaswamy Temple (BRT) Tiger Reserve
- (b) Nagarjunsagar Srisailem Tiger Reserve
- (c) Amrabad Tiger Reserve
- (d) Nagarhole Tiger Reserve

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Amrabad Tiger Reserve lies in the Nallamala hills**, a landscape that is recovering after over two centuries of degradation by the British and the Nizam of Hyderabad.
- It is a mystifying landscape of lofty hills and cavernous valleys, perennial rivers and exciting winding roads that have thick, forested topography on one side and deep and vast valleys on the other along with different hues to mark the seasons.
- It is India's second-largest tiger reserve, next only to Nagarjuna Sagar Srisailem Tiger Reserve
- It is **dominated by the Chenchus**, a ST, who are less affluent and are the most under-privileged group in Telangana.
- In 2017, Telangana Forest Department for first time has **re-introduced 'mouse deer'** in the forests of Nallamala in Amrabad Tiger Reserve (ATR).



Refer: <https://www.downtoearth.org.in/blog/wildlife-biodiversity/amrabad-tiger-reserve-an-edden-under-threat-65524>

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

31. Under which of the following circumstances, the RBI can cancel the licence of the Co-operative bank?
1. If the financial position of the bank was highly adverse and unsustainable
 2. If bank is not in a position to pay its present and future depositors
 3. If the bank failed to meet the regulatory requirement of maintaining a minimum capital adequacy ratio of 9% and reserves
- 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:

- RBI has asked the **Registrar of Co-operative Societies**, Maharashtra to start the process of winding up operations of CKP Co-operative bank and appoint a liquidator.
- On liquidation, every depositor of the bank is entitled to get up to Rs 5 lakh from the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation.
- **What's the issue?**
 - Recently, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) recently cancelled the licence of Mumbai-based CKP Co-operative Bank for the following reasons:
 - Financial position of the bank was highly adverse and unsustainable.
 - The bank is not in a position to pay its present and future depositors.
 - The bank failed to meet the regulatory requirement of maintaining a minimum capital adequacy ratio of 9% and reserves.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/05/deposit-insurance-and-credit-guarantee-corporation-dicgc/>

32. 'Tier-1 capital' of capital adequacy ratio (CAR) can absorb a reasonable amount of loss without forcing the bank to stop its trading, it consists of:
1. Equity capital
 2. Ordinary share capital



3. Intangible assets

4. Audited revenue reserves

Select the correct answer using the code below:

(a) 1, 2 and 4

(b) 1, 3 and 4

(c) 2 and 3

(d) All of the above

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **The capital adequacy ratio (CAR)** is a measurement of a bank's available capital expressed as a percentage of a bank's risk-weighted credit exposures. The capital adequacy ratio, also known as **capital-to-risk weighted assets ratio (CRAR)**, is used to protect depositors and promote the stability and efficiency of financial systems around the world.
- Two types of capital are measured: tier-1 capital, which can absorb losses without a bank being required to cease trading, and tier-2 capital, which can absorb losses in the event of a winding-up and so provides a lesser degree of protection to depositors.
- **Tier-1 Capital or core capital**, consists of equity capital, ordinary share capital, intangible assets and audited revenue reserves. Tier-1 capital is the capital that is permanently and easily available to cushion losses suffered by a bank without it being required to stop operating.
- **Tier-2 capital** comprises unaudited retained earnings, unaudited reserves and general loss reserves. This capital absorbs losses in the event of a company winding up or liquidating

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/05/deposit-insurance-and-credit-guarantee-corporation-dicgc/>

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

1. It is a severe viral disease affecting domestic and wild pigs
2. There is no approved vaccine against ASF
3. It is the only virus with a double-stranded DNA genome known to be transmitted by arthropods

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 Only

(b) 2 and 3

(c) 1 and 3

(d) All of the above

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Stat1: African swine fever (ASF) is a **severe viral disease affecting domestic and wild pigs**. This transboundary animal disease (TAD) can be spread by live or dead pigs, domestic or wild, and pork products; furthermore, transmission can also occur via contaminated feed and fomites (non-living objects) such as shoes,



clothes, vehicles, knives, equipment etc., due to the high environmental resistance of ASF virus.

- Stat2: There is **no approved vaccine against ASF** (unlike classical swine fever ('Hog Cholera') which is caused by a different virus)
- Stat3: ASFV replicates in the cytoplasm of infected cells. It is the **only virus with a double-stranded DNA genome** known to be transmitted by arthropods.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/05/african-swine-fever-asf-2/>

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

1. Shaksgam Valley
2. Siachen Glacier
3. Gilgit Baltistan

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/05/gilgit-baltistan-3/>

35. Consider the following statements:

1. Foreign portfolio investment (FPI) involves holding financial assets from a country outside of the investor's own.



2. In India, only SEBI has the power to issue participatory notes. 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: Foreign portfolio investment (FPI) involves holding financial assets from a country outside of the investor's own.
 - FPI holdings can include stocks, ADRs, GDRs, bonds, mutual funds, and exchange traded funds.
 - Along with foreign direct investment (FDI), FPI is one of the common ways for investors to participate in an overseas economy, especially retail investors.
 - Unlike FDI, FPI consists of passive ownership; investors have no control over ventures or direct ownership of property or a stake in a company.
- Stat2: Participatory notes are offshore derivative instruments with Indian shares as underlying assets. **Brokers and foreign institutional investors registered with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) issue the participatory notes and invest on behalf of the foreign investors.** Brokers must report their participatory note issuance status to the regulatory board each quarter. The notes allow foreign investors with high net worth, hedge funds, and other investors, to participate in the Indian markets without registering with the SEBI. Investors save time, money and scrutiny associated with direct registration.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/05/voluntary-retention-route-for-foreign-portfolio-investors-2/>

36. Consider the following statements:

1. The Brus, also referred to as the Reangs, are spread across the northeastern states of Tripura, Assam, Manipur, and Mizoram.
2. In Tripura, they are recognised as a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group.

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 Brus, also referred to as the Reangs, are spread across the northeastern states of Tripura, Assam, Manipur, and Mizoram.



- **In Tripura, they are recognised as a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group.** In Mizoram, they have been targeted by groups that do not consider them indigenous to the state.
- **What's the issue?**
 - About of ethnic violence forced thousands of people from the Bru tribe to leave their homes in Mizoram.
 - **The displaced Bru people from Mizoram have been living in various camps in Tripura since 1997.** In 1997, the murder of a Mizo forest guard at the Dampa Tiger Reserve in Mizoram's Mamit district allegedly by Bru militants led to a violent backlash against the community, forcing several thousand people to flee to neighbouring Tripura.
 - The Bru militancy was a reactionary movement against Mizo nationalist groups who had demanded in the mid-1990s that the Brus be left out of the state's electoral rolls, contending that the tribe was not indigenous to Mizoram.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/05/bru-reang-refugee-crisis/>

37. Consider the following statements:

1. Only the great cats can roar but not the snow leopard
2. Male tigers are generally more intolerant of other males within their territories than females are of other females
3. Rhinos have fantastic hearing and a great sense of smell, but have terrible eyesight

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Source:** Stat1: Among big cat fans the roar is the ultimate form of communication. Only the great cats can roar; that is, the tiger, lion, jaguar and leopard -- but not the snow leopard. The ability to roar is what differentiates a 'great' cat from a 'big' cat.
- **Source:** Stat2: Male tigers are generally more intolerant of other males within their territory than females are of other females. For the most part, however, territorial disputes are usually solved by displays of intimidation, rather than outright aggression. Several such incidents have been observed, in which the subordinate tiger yielded defeat by rolling onto its back, showing its belly in a submissive posture. Once dominance has been established, a male may actually tolerate a subordinate within his range, as long as they do not live in too close quarters. The most violent disputes tend to occur between two males when a female is in oestrus, and may result in the death of one of the males, although this is actually a relatively rare occurrence.



- **Source:** Stat3: Rhinos have fantastic hearing and a great sense of smell, but have terrible eyesight. They will struggle to spot something further than 30m away.
38. In 2010, the central government set up an expert panel for reintroducing the cheetah in India. With reference to this, the panel has recommended which of the following habitats?
1. Kuno Palpur National Park
 2. Velavadar National Park
 3. Tal Chapar sanctuary

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- In 2010, the central government set up an expert panel for **reintroducing the cheetah** in India. This panel recommended that the home of the fastest animal in the world could be **Kuno Palpur in Madhya Pradesh, Velavadar National Park in Gujarat and Tal Chapar sanctuary in Rajasthan.**

Refer: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/supreme-court-allows-introduction-of-african-cheetah-in-india/story-MTyJF0GdFibIP63A7hNkml.html>

39. 'Project Godawan' sometimes mentioned in news, is related to conservation of:

- (a) Mongoose
- (b) Pangolin
- (c) Great Indian Bustard
- (d) Indian Gharial

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The **Great Indian Bustard** presently is confined to only eight pockets in 6 Indian states- Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh
- Great Indian Bustard is the **State Bird of Rajasthan** and locally is called as Godawan.
- The state government of Rajasthan has started **"Project Godawan"** for its conservation at **Desert National Park in Jaisalmer.**

Refer: <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/environment-ministry-initiates-33-cr-project-to-save-great-indian-bustard/article28411646.ece>

40. Recently a 'new archaeon' was discovered in

- (a) Western Ghats
- (b) Pulicat lake
- (c) Eastern Himalaya
- (d) Sambar Lake



Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- They are a primitive group of microorganisms that thrive in extreme habitats such as hot springs, cold deserts and hypersaline lakes.
- These slow-growing organisms are also present in the human gut, and have a potential relationship with human health.
- They are known for producing antimicrobial molecules, and for anti-oxidant activity with applications in eco-friendly waste-water treatment.
- **Why in News?**
 - Scientists have reported a **new archaeon (a kind of microorganism), which they discovered in Sambhar Salt Lake in Rajasthan.**
 - It has been named Natrialba swarupiae, after Dr Renu Swarup, secretary, Department of Biotechnology.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/01/25/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-25-january-2020/>

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

41. Which of the following are non-tax revenues sources of the government?

1. Interest receipts
2. Dividends and profits
3. Petroleum license
4. Power supply fees

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Non-Tax Revenue is the recurring income earned by the government from sources other than taxes.
 - **Interest:** It comprises of interest of loans given to states and union territories for reasons like non-plan schemes (e.g. flood control) and planned schemes with maturity period of 20 years such as modernisation of police forces and also



interest on loans advanced to Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs), Port Trusts and other statutory bodies etc.

- **Dividends and profits:** This includes dividends and profits from PSEs as well as the transfer of surplus from Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- **Petroleum license:** This includes fees to get the exclusive right for exploration in a particular region. Such fees may be in the form of royalty, share of the profit earned from contact areas during a specific period, Petroleum Exploration License (PEL) fee or Production Level Payment (PLP).
- **Power supply fees:** This includes fees received by Central Electricity Authority from the supply of power under the Electricity (Supply) Act.
- **Fees for Communication Services:** This mainly includes the license fees from telecom operators on account of spectrum usage charges that licensed Telecom Service Providers pay to the Department of Telecom (DoT).
- **Broadcasting fees:** It includes license fee paid by DTH operators, commercial TV services, commercial FM radio services etc.
- **Road, Bridges usage fees:** This includes receipts through toll plazas on account of the usage of national highways, permanent bridges etc.
- **Examination fees:** This includes fees paid by applicants of competitive examinations conducted by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) and Staff Selection Commission (SSC) to fill up vacancies in government offices.
- **Fee for police services:** This includes fee received for supplying central police forces to state governments and other parties like Central Industrial Police Force (CISF) to industries etc.
- **Sale of stationery, gazettes etc:** This includes receipts under 'Stationery and Printing' relating to the sale of stationery, gazettes, government publications, etc.
- **Fee for Administrative Services:** This includes fees received for providing services like audit services, issuance of passport, visa etc.
- **Receipts relating to Defence Services:** This relates to services provided through Canteen Stores Department (CSD).

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/06/sources-of-revenue-for-the-states/>

42. Consider the following statements with reference to Union Budget-2020-21:

1. The estimated fiscal deficit for 2020-21 is 3.5% of GDP.
2. The estimated revenue deficit for 2020-21 is 2.7% of GDP.
3. The estimated primary deficit for 2020-21 is 0.4% of GDP.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?



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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management targets**
 - The Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act, 2003 requires the central government to progressively reduce its outstanding debt, revenue deficit and fiscal deficit. The central government gives three year rolling targets for these indicators when it presents the Union Budget each year. Table 8 shows the targets for revenue deficit and fiscal deficit as given in the Medium Term Fiscal Policy Statement.

Table 8: FRBM targets for deficits (as % of GDP)

	Actuals 2018-19	Revised 2019-20	Budgeted 2020-21	Target 2021-22	Target 2022-23
Fiscal Deficit	3.4%	3.8%	3.5%	3.3%	3.1%
Revenue Deficit	2.4%	2.4%	2.7%	2.3%	1.9%

Sources: Medium Term Fiscal Policy Statement, Union Budget 2020-21; PRS.

- **Fiscal deficit** is an indicator of borrowings by the government for financing its expenditure. The **estimated fiscal deficit for 2020-21 is 3.5% of GDP.**
- **Revenue deficit** is the excess of revenue expenditure over revenue receipts. Such a deficit implies the government's need to borrow funds to meet expenses which may not provide future returns. **The estimated revenue deficit for 2020-21 is 2.7% of GDP.**
- **Primary deficit** is the difference between fiscal deficit and interest payments. It is **estimated to be 0.4% of GDP in 2020-21.**

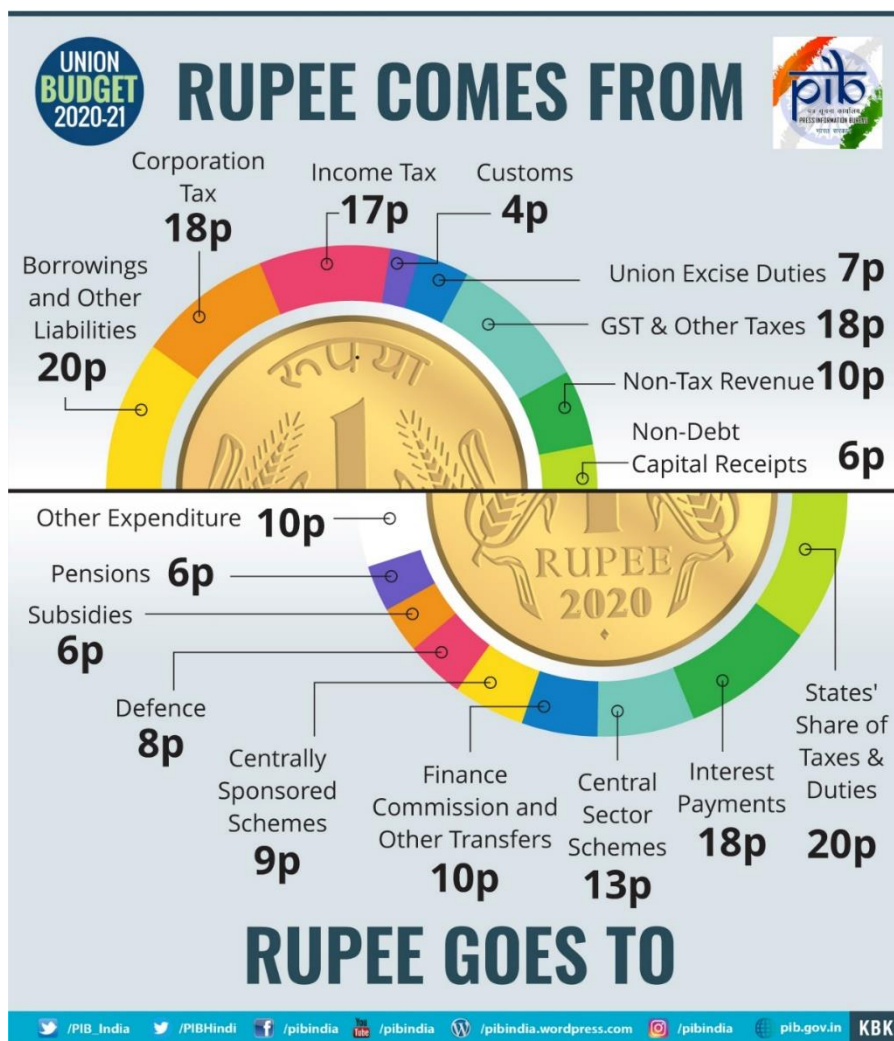
Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/06/sources-of-revenue-for-the-states/>

43. As per the Union Budget 2020-21, which of the following is the biggest GOIs revenue source?

- (a) Borrowings and other liabilities
- (b) Corporation Tax
- (c) GST and Other taxes
- (d) Non Tax revenue

Ans: (a)

Explanation:



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/06/sources-of-revenue-for-the-states/>

44. For the first time in India, the 'Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana' campaign has been launched by

- NITI Aayog
- PM-STIAC
- Department of Pharmaceuticals
- Indian Council of Medical Research

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana'** is a campaign launched by the **Department of Pharmaceuticals**, Govt. Of India, to provide quality medicines at affordable prices to the masses through special kendra's known as Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Kendra.
- Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India (BPPI)** is the implementing agency of PMBJP. BPPI (Bureau of Pharma Public Sector Undertakings of India) has been established under the Department



of Pharmaceuticals, Govt. of India, with the support of all the CPSUs.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/06/pradhan-mantri-bhartiya-janaushadhi-pariyojana-pmbjp-5/>

45. Recently which of the following has published a report named UN the “Lost at Home” report?

- (a) UNDP
- (b) UNEP
- (c) UNESCO
- (d) UNICEF

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) has published a report named UN the “Lost at Home” report.**
- India and neighbours:
 - More than five million people were internally displaced in India due to natural disasters, conflict and violence in 2019, constituting the highest number of new internal displacements in the world during the period followed by the Philippines, Bangladesh and China.
 - India, the Philippines, Bangladesh and China accounted for 69% of global disaster-induced displacements.
 - These were overwhelmingly caused by extreme conditions created by dangerous storms and floods.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/06/unicef-lost-at-home-report/>

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

- | <i>Satellite</i> | <i>Space Agency</i> |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 1. CryoSat-2 | ISRO |
| 2. Arktika-M | Roscosmos |
| 3. Icesat-2 | NASA |

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: (c)

Explanation:

- **CryoSat (1, 2)** is an **ESA programme** to monitor variations in the extent and thickness of polar ice through use of a satellite in low Earth orbit. The information provided about the behaviour of



coastal glaciers that drain thinning ice sheets will be key to better predictions of future sea level rise.

- **ICESat-2 (Ice, Cloud, and land Elevation Satellite 2)**, part of **NASA's Earth Observing System**, is a satellite mission for measuring ice sheet elevation and sea ice thickness, as well as land topography, vegetation characteristics, and clouds

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/06/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-6-may-2020/>

47. 'Surakshit Dada-Dadi & Nana-Nani Abhiyan' has been launched recently by:

- ICMR
- NITI
- Mol&E
- MoSJ&E

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Launched by Niti Aayog** in association with Piramal Foundation.
- Focussed on ensuring wellbeing of senior citizens during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The campaign will reach over 2.9 million senior citizens in 25 Aspirational Districts across Assam, Bihar, Jharkhand, MP, Maharashtra, Rajasthan & UP.
- It focuses on behaviour change, access to services, early detection & tracking of COVID19 symptoms.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/06/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-6-may-2020/>

48. Which of the following is/are the famous HADR operations carried out by Indian Navy?

- Operation Sankalp
- Operation Samudra Setu
- Operation Sanjeevani

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- 1 and 3
- 2 and 3
- 1 and 2
- All of the above

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Indian Navy has launched **Operation Samudra Setu** – meaning Sea Bridge, as a part of national effort to repatriate Indian citizens from overseas.



- The Indian Navy has launched '**Operation Sankalp**' in the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman as a measure to assure the safety and security of the Indian vessels.
- An Indian Air Force (IAF) C-130J transport aircraft recently delivered 6.2 tonne of essential medicines and hospital consumables to Maldives **under Operation Sanjeevani**.
- Among other things, these medicines include influenza vaccines, anti-viral drugs such as lopinavir and ritonavir — which have been used to treat patients with COVID-19 in other countries.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/06/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-6-may-2020/>

49. 'Not All Animals Migrate By Choice Campaign' is an awareness campaign has been launched by UN Environment India and:

- (a) Wild life Institute of India (WII)
- (b) World Wide Fund For Nature India (WWF-India)
- (c) People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals-India(PETA-India)
- (d) Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB)

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **UN Environment India and Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) of India** have launched an awareness campaign '**Not all animals migrate by choice**'.
- **About the campaign:**
 - The campaign aims at creating awareness and garnering public support for the protection and conservation of wildlife, prevention of smuggling and reduction in demand for wildlife products.
 - The campaign also complements worldwide action on illegal trade in wildlife through UN Environment's global campaign, Wild for Life.
 - In the first phase of the campaign, Tiger, Pangolin, Star Tortoise and Tokay Gecko have been chosen as they are highly endangered due to illegal trading in International markets.
- **About WCCB:**
 - Wildlife Crime Control Bureau is a statutory multi-disciplinary body established by the Government of India under the Ministry of Environment and Forests, to combat organized wildlife crime in the country.
- **Under Section 38 (Z) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, it is mandated:**
 - to collect and collate intelligence related to organized wildlife crime activities and to disseminate the same to State and other enforcement agencies for immediate action so as to apprehend the criminals.
 - to establish a centralized wildlife crime data bank.



- co-ordinate actions by various agencies in connection with the enforcement of the provisions of the Act.
- assist foreign authorities and international organization concerned to facilitate co-ordination and universal action for wildlife crime control.
- capacity building of the wildlife crime enforcement agencies for scientific and professional investigation into wildlife crimes and assist State Governments to ensure success in prosecutions related to wildlife crimes.
- advise the Government of India on issues relating to wildlife crimes having national and international ramifications, relevant policy and laws.
- Assist and advise the Customs authorities in inspection of the consignments of flora & fauna as per the provisions of Wild Life Protection Act, CITES and EXIM Policy governing such an item.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2019/05/21/not-all-animals-migrate-by-choice-campaign-launched/>

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

<i>NP/WS</i>	<i>State</i>
1. Nalbana Bird Sanctuary	Gujarat
2. Nauradehi Sanctuary	Rajasthan
3. Mahadayi WS	Goa
4. Van Vihar NP	Madhya Pradesh

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Nalbana Bird Sanctuary: Odisha
- Nauradehi Sanctuary: Madhya Pradesh

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 7th -May-2020

51. Which of the following was/were the famous works of Rabindranath Tagore:

Tagore:

- 1. Chokher bali
- 2. The Post Master
- 3. Gora



4. The Life Divine

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

Following is a short description of the famous works of Rabindranath Tagore:

- **Gora-Novel**

- It is the largest and the most complex of the 12 novels written by Rabindranath Tagore. It raises a number of issues/ concerns, which seem very contemporary and are easily applicable to current scenario of our country.
- This book is a reflection and analysis of the multifarious social life in colonial India.

- **The Postmaster**

- Subject: Loneliness and the search for meaning in the world
- This is a touching story of a city-bred young man working as a postmaster in a remote village to earn his bread and butter.

- **Chokher bali- Novel**

- A Bengali novel written by Tagore, 'Chokher Bali' or 'A grain of sand' is a story which revolves around an extra-marital affair. It is a story about passion, desires, relationships, unfulfilled dreams as well as honesty. The complexity of relationships and of human character are very well portrayed in this novel.

About The Life Divine

- It is Aurobindo's principal philosophic work, a theory of spiritual evolution culminating in the transformation of man from a mental into a supramental being and the advent of a divine life upon earth.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/07/gurudev-rabindranath-tagore/>

52. Consider the following statements:

1. As per the new rules, Co-Operative banks would be audited in all States as per orders issued by Ministry of Finance in consultation with CAG
2. Appointment of CEOs to the Co-Operatives banks require prior approval from the central bank

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 Only
- (b) 2 Only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 and 2



Ans: (b)

Explanation: Union Cabinet has approved to bring regulation of cooperative banks under Reserve Bank of India. In order to achieve this, the Cabinet approved amendments to Banking regulation act.

- The amendments will apply to all urban co-operative banks and multi-state cooperative banks.
- **As per the changes:**
 - **Cooperative banks will be audited according to RBI's norms.**
 - RBI can supersede the board, in consultation with the state government, if any cooperative bank is under stress.
 - **Appointments of chief executives will also require permission from the banking regulator, as is the case for commercial banks**

Green Signal

BANKING LAWS AMENDED

- Reserve Bank to have control over cooperative banks
- Move to ensure better professionalism, corporate governance
- RBI can supersede management if cooperative bank fails
- Will protect interest of depositors
- Coop banks to be audited as per RBI rules
- Prior nod from RBI required for CEO appointment

New Port at Vadhavan

- In-principle approval given by Cabinet
- Port to be developed in Maharashtra on 'landlord' model
- Project cost: ₹65,544 cr

BCCL

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/07/co-op-banks-come-under-sarfaesi-act-supreme-court/>

53. Consider the following statements:

1. The Bureau of Energy Efficiency is a statutory body under Ministry of New & Renewable Energy
2. BEE spearheaded and implemented the Government of India's zero-subsidy UnnatJyoti by Affordable LEDs for All (UJALA) 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: (d)

Explanation:

- The **Bureau of Energy Efficiency** is an agency of the Government of India, under the **Ministry of Power** created in March 2002



under the provisions of the nation's **2001 Energy Conservation Act**.

- **About UJALA scheme:**
 - The main objective of the scheme is to promote efficient lighting, enhance awareness on using efficient equipment which reduce electricity bills and help preserve environment.
 - The scheme is being **implemented by Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)**, a joint venture of PSUs under the Union Ministry of Power.
 - UJALA is a flagship project of the Govt. of India where it wants every home in India to use LED bulbs so that the net power or energy consumption rate comes down and the carbon emission rates can also be checked.
- **About SLNP:**
 - Launched in 2015, **EESL's Street Light National Programme (SNLP)** has been instrumental in replacing over 50 lakh street lights in over 500 cities in India, leading to 135 crore kWh of energy savings and cost saving of INR 742 crore every year.
 - Under the programme, EESL replaces the conventional street lights with LEDs at its own costs, with no upfront investment by the municipalities, thereby making their adoption even more attractive.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/07/impact-of-energy-efficiency-measures-for-the-year-2018-19/>

54. "It is a flammable liquid that is used in the manufacturing of plastics, fiberglass, rubber, and latex. It is also found in vehicle exhaust, cigarette smoke, and in natural foods like fruits and vegetables." It is

- (a) Methyl isocyanate
- (b) Styrene
- (c) Carbon dioxide
- (d) Cyanide

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- A gas leak, reminiscent of **the 1984 Bhopal tragedy**, has affected thousands of residents in five villages **in Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh**.
- The source of the leak was **a styrene plant** owned by South Korean electronics giant LG, located at RRV Puram near Gopalapatnam, about 15 kms from the coast city.
- **What is styrene?**
 - It is **a flammable liquid** that is **used in the manufacturing of polystyrene plastics, fiberglass, rubber, and latex**.
 - It is **also found in vehicle exhaust, cigarette smoke, and in natural foods like fruits and vegetables**.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/07/vizag-gas-leak-what-is-styrene-gas/>

55. 'Vesak', sometimes mentioned in news in reference to

- (a) The Great Departure of Buddha
- (b) New Moon in the month of May
- (c) Buddha Purnima
- (d) Both (a) & (b)

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Vesak'**, the Day of the **Full Moon** in the **month of May**, is being observed by United Nations on May 7, 2020.
- It is also known as **Buddha Purnima and Buddha Day**.
- The day **commemorates birth, enlightenment and Death (or Parinirvana) of Lord Buddha, the founder of Buddhism**, all of which is said to have taken place on the same day.
- Vesak, falls on the full moon day (Purnima) of the month Vaishakha (May), hence the occasion is referred to as Buddha Purnima in India.
- Recognition by United Nations (UN): The General Assembly, by its resolution in 1999, recognized internationally the Day of Vesak. It was done to acknowledge the contribution that Buddhism made to humanity.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/07/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-7-may-2020/>

56. Ratooning is the practice of growing a Sugarcane crop

- (a) from the stubbles of previous crop
- (b) without the application of fertilizers or irrigation water
- (c) on hilly slopes with step cultivation
- (d) with symbiotic support from azolla and ferns

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **When sugarcane is harvested, a portion of stalk is left underground to give rise to a succeeding growth of cane, the ratoon or stubble crop.**
- Ratooning utilizes this stubble, saves cost on preparatory tillage and planting material. So, it gets benefit of residual manure and moisture.
- Ratoon crop also matures earlier and gives more or less same yield as of normal sugarcane.
- However, only one ratoon should be taken because incidence of pests and diseases increases and deterioration of soil takes place.

Refer: <https://agriinfo.in/ratooning-in-sugarcane-1073/>

57. If you stay long in a busy traffic area, you often feel light headedness, confusion, headache due to the haemoglobin in your blood combining with X. What is X here?



- (a) Carbon dioxide
- (b) Carbon monoxide
- (c) Methane
- (d) Sulphur dioxide

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Carbon monoxide** poisoning occurs after breathing in too much carbon monoxide (CO). The above are symptoms of mild acute poisoning.
- Carbon monoxide causes adverse effects by combining with haemoglobin to form **carboxyhaemoglobin (HbCO) in the blood**. This prevents haemoglobin from carrying oxygen to the tissues.
- Carboxyhaemoglobin can revert to haemoglobin, but the recovery takes times

Refer: <https://ephtracking.cdc.gov/showCoRisk.action>

58. Consider the following about some un-conventional gas sources.

1. Tight gas is natural gas with highest density that instantly leaks from reservoir rocks on first impact at high pressure.
2. Coal Mine Methane (CMM) refers to methane released from the coal and surrounding rock strata due to mining activities.

Which of the above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

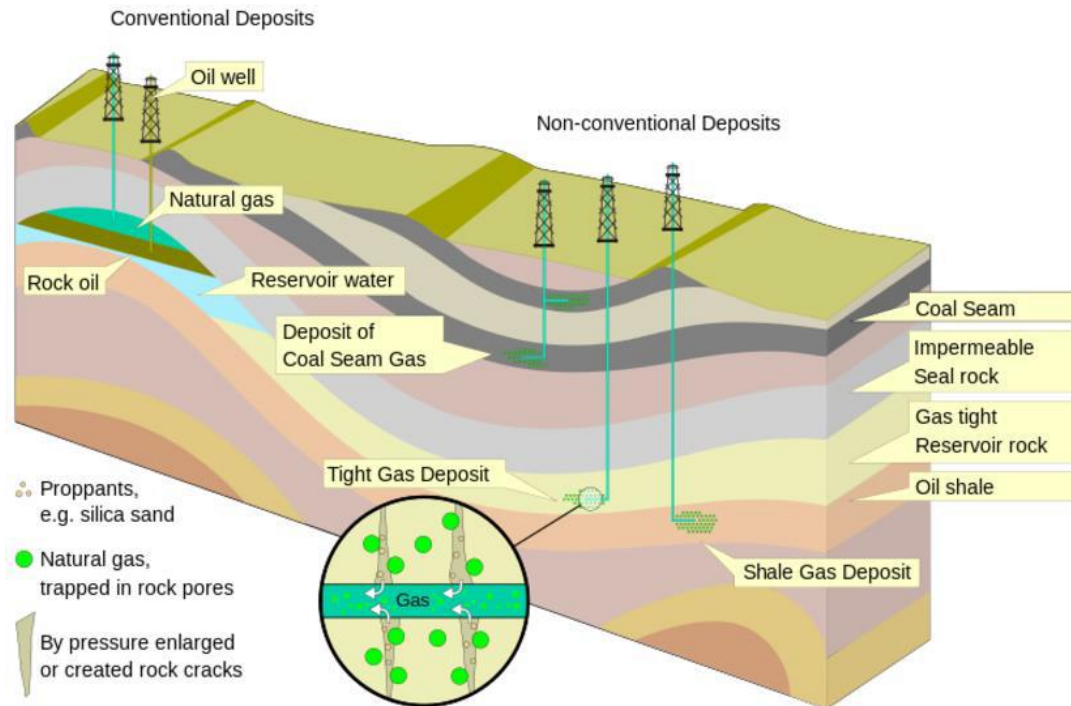
Explanation:

- **Stat1: Tight gas is natural gas produced from reservoir rocks with such low permeability** that massive hydraulic fracturing is necessary to produce the well at economic rates.
 - A tight gas reservoir is one that cannot be produced at economic flow rates or recover economic volumes of gas unless the well is stimulated by a large hydraulic fracture treatment and/or produced using horizontal wellbores.
 - This definition also applies to coalbed methane, shale gas, and tight carbonate reservoirs.
- **State 2: There is a difference between coalbed methane (CBM) and coal mine methane (CMM).**
 - **CBM refers to methane that is found in coal seams.** It is formed during the process of coalification, the transformation of plant material into coal.
 - CMM refers to methane released from the coal and surrounding rock strata due to mining activities.
 - Like CBM, CMM is a subset of the methane found in coal seams, but it refers specifically to the methane found within



mining areas (e.g., within a mining plan), while CBM refers to methane in coal seams that will never be mined.

- In underground mines CMM can create an explosive hazard to coal miners, so it is removed through ventilation systems. In abandoned mines and surface mines, methane might also escape to the atmosphere through natural fissures or other diffuse sources.



Refer: https://cdn.intechopen.com/pdfs/35289/InTech-The_expansion_of_unconventional_production_of_natural_gas_tight_gas_gas_shale_and_coal_bed_methane.pdf

59. What are the advantages of Fertigation, a method of application of fertilisers, as against conventional methods?

1. Nutrients and water are supplied near the active root zone through fertigation.
2. Efficiency of fertilizer application is higher as compared to conventional methods.
3. Urea and nitrogen-based fertilizers are incompatible with fertigation, which reduces soil degradation that usually occurs due to fertilizers.
4. Weed growth on the field can be controlled with fertigation.

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:



- **Fertigation is a method of fertilizer application in which fertilizer is incorporated within the irrigation water by the drip system.** In this system fertilizer solution is distributed evenly in irrigation.
- Statement 1 and 2: By this method, fertilizer use efficiency is increased from 80 to 90 per cent as they are delivered directly to roots via drip. As water and fertilizer are supplied evenly to all the crops through fertigation there is possibility for getting 25-50 per cent higher yield.
- Statement 3: **Urea, potash and highly water soluble fertilizers are available for applying through fertigation. In fact, Urea is well suited for injection in micro irrigation system.** It is highly soluble and dissolves in non-ionic form, so that it does not react with other substances in the water.
- Statement 4: Drip irrigation also avoids water spillage on the field which could have promoted weed growth. So, fertigation also helps control weed growth.
- Image: Fertigation



Refer: http://agritech.tnau.ac.in/agriculture/agri_nutrientmgt_fertigation.html

60. Cellulose is not a significant source of pure glucose, as compared to starch, because
1. Very little cellulose is available for conversion compared to starch.
 2. Cellulose cannot be converted into Glucose other than by degrading at high temperatures.
 3. Cellulose resists biodegradation unlike starch.
- Select the correct answer using the codes below.
- (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 3 only



(c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 2 only

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Statement 1: There is very much more cellulose available as the biomass of plants, and is as a potential source of glucose, than starch, yet it is not a significant source of pure glucose.
- Statement 2: Currently, there are two major ways of converting cellulose to glucose: chemical versus enzymatic. These are tricky.
- However, starch is directly produced in relatively pure forms by plants for use as an easily biodegradable energy and carbon store. This makes it a preferable choice for glucose production.
- Statement 3: On the other hand, Cellulose is structural and is purposefully combined and associated with lignin and pentosans, so as to resist biodegradation.
- You can understand this by the fact that dead trees take several years to decay even in tropical rainforests.
- Owing to these reasons, research on both methods has for decades occupied the attention of many investigators world wide.

Refer: [6.9 Glucose from cellulose: Google Books](#)

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

61. Recently the 'attack on Pearl Harbour' was in news in reference to:

- (a) World War I
- (b) Ghadar Movement
- (c) Axis invasion of the Soviet Union
- (d) World War II

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- President Donald Trump has said the coronavirus outbreak has hit the US harder than the **Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor during World War II** or the 9/11 terror attacks, pointing the finger at China.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/08/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-8-may-2020/>

62. Consider the following statements:

1. Parliamentary committees draw their authority from Article 105 and Article 118
2. In India, the first Public Accounts Committee was constituted in 1950



3. Parliament is bound by the recommendations of Parliamentary committees

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Stat2: As is the case with several other practices of Indian parliamentary democracy, the institution of Parliamentary Committees also has its origins in the British Parliament. The first Parliamentary Committee was constituted in 1571 in Britain. The Public Accounts Committee was established in 1861. **In India, the first Public Accounts Committee was constituted in April 1950.** According to P.D.T. Achary, former Secretary General of the Lok Sabha, "The practice of regularly referring bills to committees began in 1989 after government departments started forming their own standing committees. Prior to that, select committees or joint committees of the houses were only set up to scrutinise in detail some very important bills, but this was few and far between."
- Stat1: **Parliamentary committees** draw their authority from **Article 105** (on privileges of Parliament members) and **Article 118** (on Parliament's authority to make rules for regulating its procedure and conduct of business).
- Stat3: Committee reports are usually exhaustive and provide authentic information on matters related to governance. Bills that are referred to committees are returned to the House with significant value addition. However, **Parliament is not bound by the recommendations of committees.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/08/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-8-may-2020/>

63. Which of the following statements about Prime Minister's Research Fellows Scheme is/are not correct?

- (a) The scheme was announced in the Budget 2019-20
- (b) It is aimed at attracting the talent pool of the country to doctoral (Ph.D.) programmes
- (c) Students from any recognized university of India can apply for the fellowship
- (d) Both (b) and (c)

Ans: (a)

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

- **The scheme was announced in the Budget 2018-19.**
- The institutes which can offer PMRF include all the IITs, all the IISERs, Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru and some of the top



Central Universities/NITs that offer science and/or technology degrees.

Recent changes and Implications:

- Now for the students from any recognised institute/ university (other than IISc/ IITs/NITs/IISERs/IEST/CF IITs), the requirement of GATE Score is reduced to 650 from 750 apart from minimum CGPA of 8 or equivalent.
- Now, there will be two channels of entries, direct entry and lateral entry.
- Under the lateral entry, candidates pursuing PhD in any PMRF granting institution can apply for the PMRF scheme if he/she satisfies certain conditions, as prescribed.
- To boost research a dedicated Division is being created in the ministry with the name of “Research and Innovation Division”. This division will be headed by a director who will be coordinating research work of various institutions coming under MHRD.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/08/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-8-may-2020/>

64. Consider the following statements:

1. Styrene is found in cigarette smoke
2. Styrene at the levels of 300-375 ppb for a short period can cause greenhouse gas effect

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: According to Tox Town, a website run by the US National Library of Medicine, styrene is also found in vehicle exhaust, cigarette smoke, and in natural foods like fruits and vegetables
- Stat2: Styrene at the levels of 300-375 ppb for a short period can cause neurological disorders and levels less than this can cause other health impacts. It stays in air for weeks and is highly reactive. It can also combine with oxygen to form styrene dioxide which is more lethal

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/08/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-8-may-2020/>

65. Mahakavach is a digital contact tracing app for Covid-19, which was recently released by State government of :

- (a) Maharashtra
- (b) Gujarat
- (c) Karnataka



(d) Telangana

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- Launched by the Government of Maharashtra.
- It is a real-time digital contact tracing mobile application which enables citizens to contribute and assist the health authorities in contact tracing, geo-fencing and tracking of quarantined COVID-19 patients.
- Selfie attendance feature has been also added in the application to get virtual attendance.
- This app is to be used by individuals as directed by their doctor or medical worker.
- The app will not be accessible to everyone, as the state government aims to use it for very targeted cases.

Refer: facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/08/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-8-may-2020/>

66. The Hawaiian Islands are an archipelago of eight major islands, which are located in

- (a) North of Pacific Ocean
- (b) South of Pacific Ocean
- (c) Central Pacific Ocean
- (d) On the Equator

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Hawaii – the longest and most isolated archipelago in the world.
- the Hawaiian archipelago is located in the **Central Pacific Ocean**, 2,390 miles (3,850 km) from California and 3,850 miles (6,195 km) from Japan.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/08/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-8-may-2020/>

67. Consider the following statements regarding Voice Over Wi-Fi (VoWi-Fi).

1. The VoWi-Fi technology allows users to make outgoing calls to any mobile phone number by connecting to a public Wi-Fi hotspot or any private home Wi-Fi network.
2. Using VoWi-Fi service users cannot make calls to a landline number.
3. All 4G compatible smartphones supports VoWi-Fi.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Ans: (c)

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

- Following its introduction in Delhi/NCR, Bharti Airte commercially rolled-out its Voice Over Wi-Fi (VoWi-Fi) service –‘Airtel Wi-Fi Calling’ in Mumbai, Kolkata, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu.
- The VoWi-Fi technology allows users to make outgoing calls to any mobile phone number and landline by connecting to a public Wi-Fi hotspot or any private home Wi-Fi network.
- The service enables no cost calling across operators and minimal data usage using a handset which supports the technology.
- VoWi-Fi will allow telcos to take on over-the-top players like WhatsApp and keep them from eating into their revenue, even as voice calling rates rise



Refer: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/telecom/telecom-news/airtel-launches-wi-fi-calling-in-mumbai-kolkata-andhra-karnataka-tn/articleshow/72935856.cms>

68. Consider the following statements regarding Dengue.

1. Hot weather and intermittent rainfall favour the sustenance of *Aedes aegypti* —the vector transmitting the dengue virus.
2. Dengue is mostly an asymptomatic infection, and only a very few develop severe disease.
3. WHO highly recommends usage of complementary medicines like Nilavembu kudineer (a Siddha medicine) and papaya leaf extract for treating Dengue.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Dengue is essentially a tropical disease that occurs in the countries around the Equator; hot weather and intermittent rainfall favour the sustenance of *Aedes aegypti* —the vector transmitting the dengue virus —and *Aedes albopictus*, a minor contributor. *Aedes* eggs can remain dormant for more than a year and will hatch once they come in contact with water. Urbanisation, poor town planning, and improper sanitation are the major risk factors for the multiplication of such mosquitoes. *Aedes* mosquitoes cannot fly beyond a hundred metres. Hence, keeping the ambience clean can help prevent their breeding. Further, these mosquitoes bite during the daytime, so keeping the windows shut in the day hours is also useful.
- Dengue is mostly an asymptomatic infection, and only a very few develop severe disease. Those very young or very old and those who have a chronic ailment are at a greater risk of developing severe disease. But the worldwide case fatality rate is as low as 0.3%.
- Despite the adequate and well-formed guidelines for the management of dengue cases by the WHO and the Indian government, the usage of complementary medicines like Nilavembu kudineer (a Siddha medicine) and papaya leaf extract are rampant among the people. Nilavembu sooranam, which reportedly contains about nine different substances, has been widely promoted for use to treat dengue fever despite the safety of and complex interactions among its different constituents not having been tested.
- There are case reports where *Andrographis paniculata*, an active constituent of Nilavembu sooranam, showed anti-fertility effects in animal models, causing abortion. Even meta-analysis of various studies has shown that there is no credible evidence for the use of papaya extract in dengue fever.



Refer: <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/taking-a-holistic-approach-to-dengue/article30537548.ece>

69. Consider the following statements regarding the “One Planet One City Challenge”

1. It's a friendly competition, organized by World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) to mobilize cities to deliver on the Paris Agreement.
2. The logo of WWF is a Red Panda.
3. Pune was selected as a National Winner in 2017-2018 edition of WWF's “One Planet City Challenge (OPCC)”.

Which of the above statements is /are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- The black-and white panda (a Giant Panda) is the logo of World Wide Fund for Nature. Panaji, Pune, and Rajkot were the three Indian cities which were selected as national finalists in 2017-2018 edition of WWF's One Planet City Challenge (OPCC).
- However, Rajkot emerged as the National Winner in 2017-2018 edition of WWF's One Planet City Challenge (OPCC)

70. Consider the following statements.

1. India has successfully achieved the complete phase out of Hydro chlorofluorocarbon (HCFC)-141 b, which is a chemical used by foam manufacturing enterprises.
2. Before the phase out of Hydro chlorofluorocarbon (HCFC)-141 b, India was one of the major importers of HCFC-141b.
3. The complete phase out of HCFC 141 b from the country is as agreed under Basel Convention.

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:


- **India has successfully achieved the complete phase out of Hydro chlorofluorocarbon (HCFC)-141 b**, which is a chemical used by foam manufacturing enterprises and one of the most potent ozone depleting chemical after Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs).
- (HCFC)-141 b is used mainly as a blowing agent in the production of rigid polyurethane (PU) foams.
- HCFC-141b is not produced in the country and all the domestic requirements are met through imports. With this notification,



prohibiting the import of HCFC-141 b, the country has completely phased out the important ozone depleting chemical.

- Simultaneously, the use of HCFC-141 b by foam manufacturing industry has also been closed as on 1st January, 2020 under the **Ozone Depleting Substances (Regulation and Control) Amendment Rules, 2014**. Nearly, 50 % of the consumption of ozone depleting chemicals in the country was attributable to HCFC-141 b in the foam sector.
- The complete phase out of HCFC 141 b from the country in foam sector is among the first at this scale in **Article 5 parties (developing countries) under the Montreal Protocol**.

Refer: <https://vikaspedia.in/news/india-achieves-complete-phase-out-of-one-the-most-potent-ozone-depleting-chemical?content=highContrast>

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

71. Consider the following statements about Stringency Index:

1. Index is created by World Health Organisation
 2. A higher index score indicates a higher level of stringency
- 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:

- A **Stringency Index** created by **Oxford University** shows how strict a country's measures were, and at what stage of the pandemic spread it enforced these. As per the index, India imposed its strictest measures much earlier than others.
- The Stringency Index is a number from **0 to 100** that reflects these indicators. **A higher index score indicates a higher level of stringency.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/09/what-is-stringency-index/>

72. Consider the following statements about the Court of Justice:

1. It is the European Union's supreme court in matters of EU law
2. The Court of Justice is based in Hague
3. The President of the Court of Justice is elected from and by the judges for a renewable term of three years

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: (c)

Explanation: **About the European Court of Justice (ECJ):**

- It is a part **Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU)**, and is **the European Union's supreme court in matters of EU law**.
- Founded in 1952 after **the Treaty of Paris**.
- It is based in **Luxembourg**.
- It ensures that EU law is interpreted and applied the same in every EU country, and ensures that countries and EU institutions abide by EU law.
- It settles legal disputes between national governments and EU institutions.
- In terms of hierarchy, the national courts of member countries are understood to be below the ECJ in matters of EU law.
- Following the entrance into force of **the Treaty of Lisbon** on 1 December 2009, the ECJ's official name was changed from the **"Court of Justice of the European Communities" to the "Court of Justice"**.
- **Composition:**
 - It is composed of one judge per member state – currently 27 – although it normally hears cases in panels of three, five or 15 judges.
 - **The President of the Court of Justice is elected from and by the judges for a renewable term of three years.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/09/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-9-may-2020/>

73. With reference to Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), consider the following statements

1. AIIB has more than 80 member nations.
2. India is the largest shareholder in AIIB.
3. AIIB does not have any members from outside Asia.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- Stat1: AIIB has 97 members and is open to accepting additional members.



- Stat2: The allocated shares are based on the size of each member country's economy (calculated using GDP Nominal (60%) and GDP PPP (40%)), whether they are an Asian or Non-Asian Member, and the number of shares determines the fraction of authorized capital in the bank.
- China is the biggest shareholder followed by India.
- See <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/row/R44754.pdf> and https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/india-is-second-largest-shareholder-of-aiib-piyush-goyal-118062400640_1.html
- Stat3: It has members from outside Asia such as Fiji, New Zealand etc. Membership in AIIB is open to members of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development or the Asian Development Bank. See <https://www.aiib.org/en/about-aiib/governance/members-of-bank/index.html>

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/09/asian-infrastructure-investment-bank-aiib-2/>

74. Consider the following statements:

1. Locusts are a collection of certain species of short-horned grasshoppers
2. The desert locust is regarded as the most destructive pest in India
3. Locusts are edible insects

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: **Locusts are a collection of certain species of short-horned grasshoppers** in the family Acrididae that have a swarming phase.
- Stat2: Four species of locusts are found in India: Desert locust (*Schistocerca gregaria*), Migratory locust (*Locusta migratoria*), Bombay Locust (*Nomadacris succincta*) and Tree locust (*Anacridium* sp.)
- The **desert locust is regarded as the most destructive pest in India** as well as internationally, with a small swarm covering one square kilometre being able to consume the same amount of food in one day as 35,000 people.
- Stat3: **Locusts are edible insects**. Several cultures throughout the world consume insects, and locusts are considered a delicacy and



eaten in many African, Middle Eastern, and Asian countries. They have been used as food throughout history.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/09/locust-attacks-2/>

75. Consider the following statements:

1. The Indian Sundarban, also a UNESCO world heritage site, is home to the Royal Bengal Tiger.
2. Sajnakhali Wildlife Sanctuary is an IUCN category IV habitat in the northern part of the Sundarbans delta.
3. As per the All India Tiger Estimates 2018, no tiger was recorded in Buxa tiger reserve (West Bengal).

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Stat1: The Indian Sundarban, also a UNESCO world heritage site, is home to the Royal Bengal Tiger. It is the 27th Ramsar Site in India, and with an area of 4,23,000 hectares is now the largest protected wetland in the country.
- Stat2: **Sajnakhali Wildlife Sanctuary** is an IUCN category IV (habitat/species management area) in the northern part of the Sundarbans delta in South 24 Parganas district, West Bengal, India.
- Stat3: **As per the All India Tiger Estimates 2018, no tiger was recorded in Buxa (West Bengal), Dampa (Mizoram) Palamu (Jharkhand) Tiger reserves.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/09/tiger-population-rises-to-96-in-west-bengals-sundarbans/>

76. Consider the following statements:

1. The first 'World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD)' was celebrated in 2006
2. Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS) also referred as Bonn Challenge
3. Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary bird sanctuary is located in the Mandya District of the state of Karnataka

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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



Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Stat1: The World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) 2020 was observed on 9th May 2020. It helps to raise global awareness about threats faced by migratory birds, their ecological importance, and need for international cooperation to conserve them.
- **The first WMBD was celebrated in 2006.**
- Organized By: The Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), the African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA) together with Environment for the Americas (EFTA).
- Theme: "Birds Connect Our World".
- Stat2: In order to protect the migratory species throughout their range countries, a **Convention on Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS), has been in force, under the aegis of United Nations Environment Programme.**
- Also referred to as the **Bonn Convention**, it provides a global platform for the conservation and sustainable use of migratory animals and their habitats and brings together the States through which migratory animals pass, the Range States, and lays the legal foundation for internationally coordinated conservation measures throughout a migratory range.
- Stat3: **Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary** is an estuarine mangrove habitat, which is declared as the bird sanctuary, and located on western tip of the **Island of Chorão along the Mandovi River, Goa**, in India. The sanctuary is named after Salim Ali, the eminent Indian ornithologist.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/09/world-migratory-bird-day-wmbd-2/>

77. 'The Resistance Front' sometimes mentioned in news, it is related to:

- (a) Ghadar Revolution
- (b) Chittagong armoury raid
- (c) Offshoot of some terrorist group
- (d) New front formed by revolutionaries during civil disobedient movement

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The **Resistance Front** has claimed responsibility for the attack in Kupwara district along the Line of Control on April 5, 2020, where 5 army personnel were killed.
- It is an **offshoot of the terrorist group Lashkar-e-Toiba** and is also associated with other terror outfits such as Hizbul Mujahideen, Jaish-e-Mohammed.



- Various Indian security agencies operating in Kashmir feel that the 'TRF' was formed due to the pressure on Pakistan from the FATF to cut down on the funding of the terrorist groups.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/09/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-9-may-2020/>

78. Which of the following will reduce Global Warming in the short-term?

- (a) Increased rice cultivation
- (b) Greater promotion of cattle breeding in developing countries
- (c) Melting of permafrost In the Arctic region
- (d) Major and sustained volcanic explosions

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Option A: Rice fields are wetlands that release methane which is a GHG accelerating global warming.
- Option B: Cattle breeding also release methane. So, B is wrong.
- Option C: Permafrost contains carbon that was trapped since ages, and its release after melting accelerates global warming. The concept has been covered in an earlier test.
- Option D: Suspended particles from volcanic ash, when spread in the atmosphere, reduce solar insolation and help cool off the earth.

79. Which of these wildlife sanctuaries is situated at the tri-junction of Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka?

- (a) Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary
- (b) Valmiki National Park
- (c) Eravikulam National Park
- (d) Krishna Wildlife Sanctuary

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary & National Park** is situated at this tri-junction on the North Eastern Slopes of the Nilgiris part of Western Ghats descending to the Mysore Plateau.
- With **Bandipur Tiger Reserve (Karnataka)** in the north, and **Waynad Wildlife Sanctuary (Kerala)** in the west the region forms a single, continuous viable habitat for a varied range of wildlife and is a part of the **Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve**.
- While **Mudumalai's western half receives the southwest monsoon**, the eastern tracts receive the relatively gentler north-east monsoon which results in a diversity of vegetation types and typical migration of herbivores.

Refer: <https://www.mudumalaitigerreserve.com/>

80. Consider the following statements about the physiography of India.



1. The core of the Great Himalayan is made up of limestone rocks.
2. The trough of the Narmada river is interposed between the Vindhyan and the Satpura ranges.
3. The Deccan Plateau receives heavy rainfall throughout the year as it falls on the windward side of major hills of Central and Southern India.

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Stat1: **Limestones can't bear the heavy weight of Himalayas.**
The core is actually made of granite rocks.
- Stat2: It is one of the rivers in India that flows in a rift valley, flowing west between the **Satpura and Vindhya ranges.**
- Stat3: The **Deccan Plateau is a large triangular plateau**, bounded by the Vindhyas to the north and flanked by the Eastern and Western Ghats.
- This region is mostly semi-arid as it lies on the leeward side of both Ghats. Much of the Deccan is covered by thorn scrub forest scattered with small regions of deciduous broadleaf forest. Climate in the Deccan ranges from hot summers to mild winters.

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

81. Consider the following statements about Gopal Krishna Gokhale:
1. In 1905, Gokhale formed 'The Servants of India Society'
 2. With the guidance of M G Ranade, Gokhale started the Deccan Sabha in 1896
 3. He is the first Indian to sit on a Royal Commission (the Welby Commission)

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:

- Though Gokhale did not attend the first session of the Congress, he emerged as an important figure in the political affairs of the country. A turning point was 1889, as he attended the INC session as a delegate from Pune along with Tilak. In 1895, Gokhale was disturbed by the controversy in the Sarvajanik Sabha, especially about the Age of Consent Bill. **With the guidance of his mentor, Ranade, he started the Deccan Sabha in 1896.** When the British Parliament appointed the Welby Commission to enquire into the cause of famines, the Deccan Sabha sent Gokhale to England to present Indian viewpoint. This he did admirably in March, 1897.
 - Affectionately known as "The Grand Old Man of India", **Dadabhai Naoroji** was an ardent patriot, a great social and political reformer and a prominent nationalist of progressive views. **He was the first Indian to be elected to the British Parliament, the first Indian to sit on a Royal Commission (the Welby Commission)** and more importantly, the first Indian to claim self-government or "Swaraj". He was thrice elected the President of the Indian National Congress. Dadabhai's dedicated and selfless services to the country in all fields led him to be acclaimed as the "Father of Indian Politics and Economics".
- **In 1905, Gokhale formed 'The Servants of India Society'** and established a library for its members. For the Benares session, Gokhale was proposed as the president in his absence. Later in his address, he criticised Lord Curzon's division of Bengal. When the Prince of Wales met Gokhale during his tour of India, he asked him pointedly if people would be happier if Indians ran the country. Gokhale's response was that they might not be happier but they would surely have self-respect. After the split in Calcutta session, Gokhale and Motilal Nehru explained to the nation that the only practical way to attain the status of free India was to follow constitutional means.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/11/gopal-krishna-gokhale/>

82. He was the 13th king of Mewar, a region in north-western India in the present-day state of Rajasthan. He was known for his bravery in the Battle of Haldighati. He was

- (a) Prithviraj Chauhan
- (b) Maharana Pratap
- (c) Udai Singh II
- (d) Amar Singh I

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- May 9 marks birth anniversary of **Maharana Pratap**, the 13th Rajpur king of Mewar. Maharana Pratap was born in 1540 and died at the age of 56 in 1597.



- **Battle of Haldighati:**
 - **He is known for his bravery in the Battle of Haldighati.** It was fought in 1576 between Maharana and the forces of Akbar led by Man Singh of Amber.
 - Rana's forces were defeated in 6 hours. But the Mughals failed to capture him. Maharana re-gathered his forces, fought and won against the Mughals after six years in 1582. Having faced a terrible defeat, Akbar stopped his military campaigns against Mewar after the battle.
- **Legacy:**
 - Rana Pratap's defiance of the mighty Mughal empire, almost alone and unaided by the other Rajput states, constitute a glorious saga of Rajput valour and the spirit of self sacrifice for cherished principles. Rana Pratap's methods of sporadic warfare was later elaborated further by Malik Ambar, the Deccani general, and by Shivaji Maharaj.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/11/maharana-pratap/>

83. 'Sample Registration System (SRS) bulletin' has been recently released by:

- (a) Indian Council of Medical Research
- (b) National Sample Survey Office
- (c) NITI Aayog
- (d) Registrar General of India

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **Sample Registration System (SRS):**

- The SRS is a demographic survey for providing reliable annual estimates of infant mortality rate, birth rate, death rate and other fertility and mortality indicators at the national and sub-national levels.
- **Initiated on a pilot basis by the Registrar General of India** in a few states in 1964-65, it became fully operational during 1969-70.
- The field investigation consists of continuous enumeration of births and deaths in selected sample units by resident part-time enumerators, generally anganwadi workers and teachers; and an independent retrospective survey every six months by SRS supervisors. The data obtained by these two independent functionaries are matched.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/11/sample-registration-system-srs/>

84. With reference to Sample Registration System (SRS) bulletin, consider the following statements:

1. Chhattisgarh has the highest death rate, while Delhi has the lowest.
2. Madhya Pradesh has the worst infant mortality rate in the country while Nagaland has the best.

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:

- **Sample Registration System (SRS) bulletin** has been released by the **Registrar General of India**. It is based on data collected for 2018.
- **Key findings and important facts:**
 - Bihar (26.2) continues to remain at the top of list in birth rate while Andaman and Nicobar (11.2) is at the bottom.
 - Chhattisgarh has the highest death rate, while Delhi has the lowest.
 - Madhya Pradesh (48) has the worst infant mortality rate in the country while Nagaland (4) has the best.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/11/sample-registration-system-srs/>

85. Which of the following statements best describes the term 'strict liability principle'?

- (a) As per this principle, company has to mandatorily pay compensation, whether or not the disaster was caused by its negligence
- (b) As per this principle, compensation is payable as per the nature and quantum of damages caused
- (c) Under the strict liability principle a company in a hazardous industry cannot claim any exemption
- (d) Both (a) and (c) are correct

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **What is Absolute Liability Principle?**
 - Evolution:
 - The Supreme Court, while deciding the Oleum gas leak case of Delhi in 1986, found strict liability woefully inadequate to protect citizens' rights in an industrialised economy like India and replaced it with the 'absolute liability principle'.
 - What is it?
 - **Under the absolute liability principle, the apex court held that a company in a hazardous industry cannot claim any exemption.**
 - **It has to mandatorily pay compensation, whether or not the disaster was caused by its negligence.**
 - The court said a hazardous enterprise has an "absolute non-delegable duty to the community".
 - The principle of absolute liability is part of Article 21 (right to life).
- **Difference between Absolute & Strict Liability:**



- **Payment of compensation:** Under strict liability, compensation is payable as per the nature and quantum of damages caused but in cases of absolute liability, damages to be paid are exemplary in nature, and depend upon the magnitude and financial capability of the enterprise.
- The element of “escape” is not an essential under the doctrine of Absolute Liability. This means that even if any hazardous substance does not leak from the premises of the industry but causes harm to the workers inside, the enterprise may be held absolutely liable.
- Absolute Liability can be upheld by the courts even in those cases where a single death is reported and there is no mass destruction of property or pollution of the environment.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/11/vizag-gas-leak-strict-liability-or-absolute-liability/>

86. Shekatkar committee, sometimes mentioned in news in reference to:

- (a) Reforms in MSMEs
- (b) Reforms in banking sector
- (c) Reforms in corporate governance
- (d) Reforms in defence

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Union Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh recently approved the abolition of 9,304 posts in the military engineering services. The posts were abolished based on the recommendation of Shekatkar Committee.
- **Shekatkar Committee was tasked with suggesting steps to enhance combat capability of the armed forces.**
- Measures as recommended by the Committee and taken up for implementation include:
 - Optimization of Signals Establishments to include Radio Monitoring Companies, Corps Air Support Signal Regiments, Air Formation Signal Regiments, Composite Signal Regiments and merger of Corps Operating and Engineering Signal Regiments.
 - Restructuring of repair echelons in the Army to include Base Workshops, Advance Base Workshops and Static / Station Workshops in the field Army.
 - Redeployment of Ordnance echelons to include Vehicle Depots, Ordnance Depots and Central Ordnance Depots apart from streamlining inventory control mechanisms.
 - Better utilization of Supply and Transportation echelons and Animal Transport Units.
 - Closure of Military Farms and Army Postal Establishments in peace locations.



- Enhancement in standards for recruitment of clerical staff and drivers in the Army.
- Improving the efficiency of the National Cadet Corps.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/11/public-liability-insurance-act-1991/>

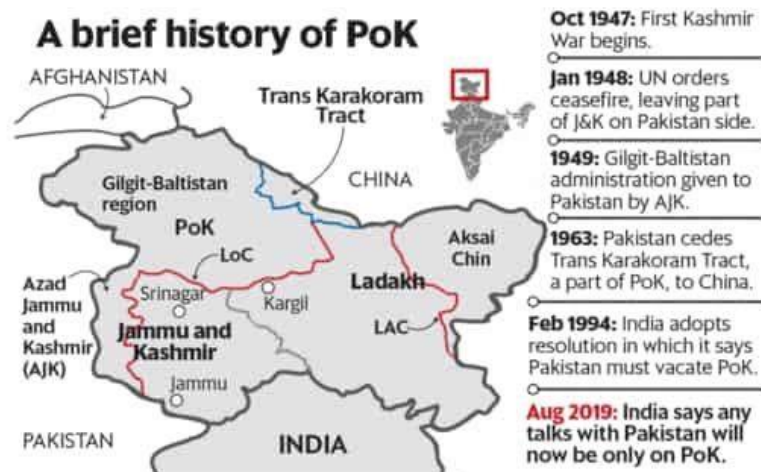
87. Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (POK) shares borders with:

- Wakhan Corridor of Afghanistan
- Xinjiang province of the People's Republic of China
- Khyber-Pakhthunkhwa of Pakistan
- All of the above i.e options (a), (b) and (c) shares borders with POK

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Because of its location, PoK is of immense strategic importance. It shares borders with several countries – the Punjab and North-West Frontier Province provinces (now called Khyber-Pakhthunkhwa) in Pakistan to the west, the Wakhan Corridor of Afghanistan in the north-west, Xinjiang province of the People's Republic of China to the north and India's Jammu and Kashmir to the east.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/11/pakistan-occupied-kashmir-pok/>

88. Consider the following statements:

- Smallpox is an infectious disease caused by bacteria.
- Smallpox is contagious – meaning, it spread from one person to another.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:



- Stat1: **Smallpox** is an infectious disease caused by one of two **virus variants, Variola major and Variola minor**.
- Stat2: It was **contagious**—meaning, it spread from one person to another. People who had smallpox had a fever and a distinctive, progressive skin rash.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/11/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-11-may-2020/>

89. Which one of the following groups of animals belongs to the category of critically endangered species?

- (a) Hog Deer, Dhole, Elongated Tortoise, Gharial
- (b) Kharai Camel, Elongated Tortoise, Ganges Shark, Golden Langur
- (c) Elongated Tortoise, Malabar Civet, Gharial, Ganges Shark
- (d) Hangul, Elongated Tortoise, Malabar Civet, Red Panda

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **About Elongated tortoise:**
 - It is a species of tortoise found in Southeast Asia and parts of the Indian Subcontinent, particularly Northeast India.
 - They have elongated somewhat narrow carapaces and yellow heads. Shells are typically a pale tannish-yellow to caramel color, with blotches of black.
 - **IUCN Red List Status: Critically Endangered.**
- The list of critically endangered species in India from various categories are given below:
- **Critically Endangered Mammals**
 - Pygmy Hog
 - Andaman White-toothed Shrew
 - Jenkin's Andaman Spiny Shrew
 - Nicobar White-tailed Shrew
 - Kondana Rat
 - Large Rock Rat or Elvira Rat
 - Namdapha Flying Squirrel
 - **Malabar Civet**
 - Sumatran Rhinoceros
 - Javan Rhinoceros
- **Critically Endangered Birds**
 - Aythya baeri
 - Forest Owlet
 - Great Indian Bustard
 - Bengal Florican
 - Siberian Crane
 - Spoon-billed Sandpiper
 - Sociable Lapwing



- Jerdon's Courser
- White-backed Vulture
- Red-headed Vulture
- White-bellied Heron
- Slender-billed Vulture
- Indian Vulture
- Pink-headed Duck
- Himalayan Quail
- **Critically Endangered Reptiles**
 - **Gharial**
 - Hawksbill Turtle
 - Leatherback Turtle
 - River Terrapin
 - Bengal Roof Turtle
 - Sispara day gecko
- **Critically Endangered Fishes**
 - Pondicherry Shark
 - **Ganges Shark**
 - Knife-tooth Sawfish
 - Large-tooth Sawfish
 - Narrow-snout Sawfish

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/11/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-11-may-2020/>

90. Consider the following statements:

1. Vitamin D is a fat-soluble vitamin
2. Vitamin D sufficiency prevents rickets in children and osteomalacia in adults

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: (d)

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

- Stat1: **Vitamin D is a fat-soluble vitamin** that is naturally present in very few foods, added to others, and available as a dietary supplement.
- Stat2: Vitamin D promotes calcium absorption in the gut and maintains adequate serum calcium and phosphate concentrations to enable normal mineralization of bone and to prevent hypocalcemic tetany.
- It is also needed for bone growth and bone remodeling by osteoblasts and osteoclasts . Without sufficient vitamin D, bones can become thin, brittle, or misshapen. **Vitamin D sufficiency**



prevents rickets in children and osteomalacia in adults .

Together with calcium, vitamin D also helps protect older adults from osteoporosis.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/11/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-11-may-2020/>

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

91. Arrange the following islands nation's in the direction of West to East:

1. Mauritius
2. Seychelles
3. Madagascar
4. Comoros

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- India has launched Mission Sagar to assist island nations in the Eastern Indian Ocean.
- **Mission Sagar** has been launched as part of the government's outreach initiative towards five Island nations in the Indian Ocean amidst the ongoing COVID-19.
- Under the mission, Indian Naval Ship Kesari has departed for **Maldives, Mauritius, Seychelles, Madagascar and Comoros**, to provide food Items, COVID-related medicines including HCQ tablets and special Ayurvedic medicines with medical assistance teams.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/12/mission-sagar/>

92. Consider the following statements:

1. Nathu La Pass and Jelep La Pass are located in the state of Sikkim
2. Pangong Tso Lake has been identified under the Ramsar Convention as a wetland of international importance

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:

- **Naku La sector is a pass** at a height of more than 5,000 metres above Mean Sea Level (MSL) **in the state of Sikkim**.
 - It is located ahead of **Muguthang or Cho Lhamu (source of River Teesta)**.
 - The **other passes located in the state of Sikkim are Nathu La Pass and Jelep La Pass**.
- **Pangong Tso lake:**
 - It is a 135-km long lake, located in the Himalayas at the height of approximately 4,350 m, stretches out from India to China.
 - One-third of water body, its 45 km stretch, is in Indian control while the rest of the 90 km is under Chinese control.
 - It is formed from Tethys geosyncline.
 - It is a salt water lake.
 - **The lake is in the process of being identified under the Ramsar Convention as a wetland of international**



importance. This will be the first trans-boundary wetland in South Asia under the convention.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/12/india-china-border-dispute/>

93. 'Kalapani issue', sometimes mentioned in the news in reference to:

- (a) Indo – Pakistan border dispute
- (b) Indo – China border dispute
- (c) Indo – Myanmar border dispute
- (d) Indo – Nepal border dispute

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Nepal has claimed that the 'Link Road' connecting to Lipulekh passes through Nepali territory.
- **Nepal** claims that **India's** move marks a breach of the agreement reached between the Indian Prime Minister and Nepal PM in 2014 which sought to work out the outstanding boundary issues on **Kalapani (where Lipulekh lies) and Susta.**
- **Where is the disputed territory located?**
 - Kalapani is located at an altitude of 3600m on the Kailash Manasarovar route.
 - It borders Uttarakhand in India and Sudurpashchim Pradesh in Nepal.
 - Since the Indo-China war of 1962, Kalapani is controlled by India's Indo-Tibetan Border Police.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/12/india-nepal-border-dispute/>

94. Consider the following statements:

1. Technology Development Board (TBD) is registered under the Society Registration Act, 1961
2. India is currently among eight countries in the world that have a publicly known nuclear weapons 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: (b)

Explanation:

- Stat1: The Government of India constituted the **Technology Development Board (TDB)** in September 1996, under the Technology Development Board Act, 1995, as a statutory body, to promote development and commercialization of indigenous technology and adaptation of imported technology for wider application.
- Stat2: On May 11, 1998, India detonated three nuclear bombs in the Indian Army's Pokhran Test Range. Two days later, the country successfully tested two more nuclear weapons as a part of the same **Pokhran-II/Operation Shakti initiative**. After these tests Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee declared India a nuclear state, making it the sixth country to join the 'nuclear club' of nations.
- India is currently among **eight countries** in the world that have a publicly known nuclear weapons programme.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/12/national-technology-day/>

95. Which of the following is/are the sources of UV radiation?

- 1. Tanning booths
- 2. Mercury vapor lighting
- 3. Curing lights
- 4. Liquid crystal display monitor

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Sunlight is not the only source of UV radiation you may encounter. Other sources include:**
 - Tanning booths
 - Mercury vapor lighting (often found in stadiums and school gyms)
 - Some halogen, fluorescent, and incandescent lights
 - Some types of lasers
- Cathode ray tube, or CRT, screens like those that were once used for computer monitors and TV sets actually do emit low levels of UV radiation. However, Liquid Crystal Display and flat-panel



monitors, most commonly found on laptops, desktops, and mobile devices today do not emit any UV radiation.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/12/what-is-ultraviolet-germicidal-radiation-uvgi/>

96. 'DRUVS', sometimes mentioned in the news, is related to:

- (a) Manhole cleaning Robot
- (b) Contactless UVC sanitization cabinet
- (c) New scheme by MHRD to identify talented children to enrich their skills and knowledge
- (d) The brightest star that appears nearest to either celestial pole at any particular time

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **Defence Research Ultraviolet Sanitiser (DRUVS):**

- Developed by Hyderabad based Research Centre Imarat (RCI), a DRDO lab.
- It is an automated contactless UVC sanitisation cabinet.
- It has been designed to sanitise mobile phones, iPads, laptops, currency notes, cheque leafs, challans, passbooks, paper, envelopes, etc.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/12/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-12-may-2020/>

97. 'BiPAP ventilator' also known as 'SwasthVayu' has been recently developed by

- (a) National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL)
- (b) Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
- (c) Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)
- (d) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL)

Ans: (a)

Explanation: **SwasthVayu:**

- **National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL)**, Bangalore has developed BiPAP ventilator named SwasthVayu.
- It is a non-invasive breathing support device, for the use of non-critical non-ICU cases of Covid-19.
- BiPAP stands for Bilevel Positive Airway Pressure. It is a type of positive pressure ventilator.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/12/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-12-may-2020/>

98. In the context of cyber security, what are Botnets?

- (a) A standalone malware computer program that replicates itself in order to spread to other computers
- (b) Network of private computers infected with malicious software and controlled as a group without the owners' knowledge
- (c) A computer program designed to assist in the sending of spam



(d) A set of web pages that may intentionally be used to cause a web crawler to make an infinite number of requests

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **Botnet is a combination of the words robot and network.**

- Botnets have been identified as growing security threat.
- Such infected computers are referred to as a zombie. It is used to steal data, send spam.
- The popular attacks that happen these days using botnets are called the Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attacks.
- Option (a): describes Malware which is a malicious software specifically designed to disrupt, damage, or gain unauthorized access to a computer system.
- It is an umbrella term used to refer to a variety of forms of hostile or intrusive malicious softwares including computer viruses, worms, trojan horses, spyware, ransomware, adware, scareware etc.

Refer: <https://www.cyberswachhtakendra.gov.in/>

99. Consider the following statements:

1. Indian star tortoise naturally found in India only.
2. Today, the only known population of Pygmy hog lives in southern Bhutan and in Assam, India.
3. The black spider monkey is an essential part of the tropical rainforest ecosystem.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **The Indian star tortoise** (*Geochelone elegans*) is a threatened species of tortoise found in dry areas and scrub forest in **India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka**.
- The Indian star tortoise was upgraded to CITES Appendix I in 2019 (threatened with extinction) by full consensus among all member states (of CoP18 with 183 countries), giving it the highest level of international protection from commercial trade
- **The pygmy hog** (*Porcula salvania*) is a suid native to alluvial grasslands in the foothills of the Himalayas. **Today, the only known population lives in southern Bhutan and in Assam, India.** As the population is estimated at less than 250 mature individuals, it is listed **as Endangered** on the IUCN Red List.



- **The black spider monkey**—also known as the Guiana or red-faced spider monkey—is found in eastern South America in areas north of the Amazon River. They are one of seven species of spider monkeys found in Latin America and one of the largest primate species in South America. **The black spider monkey is an essential part of the tropical rainforest ecosystem.** They play a key role in seed dispersal, allowing their forest environment to continue to grow and thrive.

Refer: <https://www.worldwildlife.org/species/>

100. “It is a tropical grassland with warm temperatures year-round and with its highest seasonal rainfall in the summer also characterized by grasses and small or dispersed trees that do not form a closed canopy, allowing sunlight to reach the ground”.

The above statements best describes which of the following regions?

- (a) South American Pampas
- (b) African Savanna
- (c) Central Asian Steppe
- (d) North American Prairie

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- The **African savanna ecosystem** is a tropical grassland with warm temperatures year-round and with its highest seasonal rainfall in the summer. The savanna is characterized by grasses and small or dispersed trees that do not form a closed canopy, allowing sunlight to reach the ground. The African savanna contains a diverse community of organisms that interact to form a complex food web.

Refer: <https://www.nationalgeographic.org/media/african-savanna-illustration/>

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

101. ‘N4G Summit’, sometimes mentioned in the news, is primarily related to:

- (a) Climate Change
- (b) Prevention of malnutrition
- (c) Internet governance
- (d) Policy measures to be taken to tackle COVID19 across the world

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Nutrition for Growth (N4G) is** a global pledging moment to drive greater action toward **ending malnutrition** and helping ensure everyone, everywhere can reach their full potential.
- Why in news?



- **The Global Nutrition Report** was conceived following the **first Nutrition for Growth Initiative Summit (N4G) in 2013** as a mechanism for tracking the commitments made by 100 stakeholders spanning governments, aid donors, civil society, the UN and businesses.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/13/global-nutrition-report/>

102. Consider the following statements:

1. By default, agricultural income earned by a taxpayer in India is exempt under the Income Tax Act, 1961.
2. The revenue earned by the APMCs through market fee does not go to the State exchequer, hence APMC operations are hidden from state scrutiny.

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:

- Stat1: **Agricultural income earned by a taxpayer in India is exempt under Section 10(1) of the Income Tax Act, 1961.** Also agricultural income is tax-free without any limit. one can have an unlimited amount of agricultural income without paying even a single rupee towards income tax.
- Stat2: [Source](#): though the **market fee is collected just like a tax, the revenue earned by the APMCs does not go to the State exchequer** and hence does not require the approval of State legislature to utilize the funds so collected. Thus APMC operations are hidden from scrutiny.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/13/rajasthans-krishi-kalyan-fees/>

103. Consider the following statements:

1. Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) is a marketing board established by a state government in India
2. There will be no compulsion on the growers to sell their produce through existing markets administered by the APMC
3. Agriculturist who does not bring his produce to the market area for sale will not be eligible for election to the APMC

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:



- Stat1: **Agricultural Markets in most parts of the Country are established and regulated under the State APMC Acts.** The whole geographical area in the State is divided and declared as a market area wherein the markets are managed by the Market Committees constituted by the State Governments. Once a particular area is declared a market area and falls under the jurisdiction of a Market Committee, no person or agency is allowed freely to carry on wholesale marketing activities. The monopoly of Government regulated wholesale markets has prevented development of a competitive marketing system in the country, providing no help to farmers in direct marketing, organizing retailing, a smooth raw material supply to agro-processing industries and adoption of innovative marketing system and technologies
- Stat2 and 3: There will be no compulsion on the growers to sell their produce through existing markets administered by the Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC). However, **agriculturist who does not bring his produce to the market area for sale will not be eligible for election to the APMC. (Section-14)**
- **The APMC have been made specifically responsible for:**
 - ensuring complete transparency in pricing system and transactions taking place in market area;
 - providing market-led extension services to farmers;
 - ensuring payment for agricultural produce sold by farmers on the same day;
 - promoting agricultural processing including activities for value addition in agricultural produce;
 - publicizing data on arrivals and rates of agricultural produce brought into the market area for sale.
 - Setup and promote public private partnership in the management of agricultural markets.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/13/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-13-may-2020/>

104. 'CHAMPIONS' portal has been launched recently by:

- (a) Ministry of Human Resource Development
- (b) NITI Aayog
- (c) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
- (d) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Launched by the **Union Ministry of MSME.**
- It is a Technology driven Control Room-Cum-Management Information System.
- CHAMPIONS stands for Creation and Harmonious Application of Modern Processes for Increasing the Output and National Strength.



- It utilises modern ICT tools such as telephone, internet and video conference, and aims to assist Indian MSMEs to march into big league as National and Global CHAMPIONS.
- It aims to make the smaller units big by providing them various facilities such as solving their grievances, encouraging, supporting, helping and hand holding.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/13/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-13-may-2020/>

105. Which of the following **pairs (GI Products: State belongs to)** is/are correctly matched?

- (a) Sohrai Khovar Painting: West Bengal
- (b) Telia Ruma cloth: Andhra Pradesh
- (c) Cheriyal Scroll Paintings: Telangana
- (d) Madhubani Paintings: Rajasthan

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Sohrai Khovar Painting: Jharkhand
- Telia Ruma cloth: Telangana
- **Cheriyal Scroll Paintings: Telangana**
- Madhubani Paintings: Bihar

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/13/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-13-may-2020/>

106. Consider the following statements about the Gandhi Peace Prize:

1. The Award for every year is selected by a Jury under the Chairmanship of the President.
2. The prize is not awarded posthumously.

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:

- Instituted in the year 1995 on the occasion of the 125th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- This annual award is given to individuals and institutions for their contributions towards social, economic and political transformation through non-violence and other Gandhian methods.
- The award carries a cash prize of Rs 1 crore, a citation and a Plaque as well as an exquisite traditional handicraft/handloom item.
- **The Award for every year is selected by a Jury under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister.**
- It is open to all persons regardless of nationality, creed, race or sex.



- **The prize is not awarded posthumously.**

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/13/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-13-may-2020/>

107. Consider the following matches of Himalayan ranges and their peaks/ranges:

1. Himadri: A. Dhaulagiri
2. Himachal: B. Mahabharat Lekh
3. Shiwalik: C. Dhang range

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- (a) 1-C; 2-A; 3-B
- (b) 1-A; 2-B; 3-C
- (c) 1-A; 2-C; 3-B
- (d) 1-B; 2-A; 3-C

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Statement 1: Known as Greater Himalayas, its average elevation is six thousand metre.
- It is the most continuous range, snow bound and many glaciers descend from this range. It has high peaks like Mt. Everest, Kanchenjunga, Makalu, Dhaulagiri, Nanga Parbat etc. having a height of more than 8000 metres.
- Statement 2: The altitude of this range lies between 1000 and 4500 metres and the average width is 50 KM.
- The Prominent ranges in this are Pir Panjal, Dhauladhar and Mahabharata ranges. It compresses of many famous hill stations like Shimla, Dalhousie Darjeeling, Chakrata, Mussoorie, Nainital etc.
- Statement 3: It is the outer most range of the Himalayas. The altitude varies between 900-1100 meters and the width ranges between 10-50 KM. They have low hills like Jammu Hills, etc. The valleys lying between Shiwalik and Lesser Himalayas (Himachal) are called 'Duns' like Dehra Dun, Kotli Dun and Patli Dun.

Refer: <https://www.indiatoday.in/trending-news/story/jalandhar-sees-dhauladhar-range-the-first-time-ever-stunned-internet-thanks-lockdown-1662978-2020-04-03>

108. Consider the following statements.

1. A line segment joining Saudi Arabia and Egypt will cut Persian Gulf.
2. Gulf of Oman is an extension of Red Sea near Iran.

Which of the above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:



- Stat1: The line segment should actually join Saudi Arabia and Iran.
- Stat2: It is not an extension of Red Sea, but it lies on the way from Persian Gulf to Arabian Sea near Iran, Oman and UAE.



Refer: [Google Map](#)

109. As a policymaker, you should prefer environmental projects that have
- (a) A high private marginal cost and an even higher social marginal cost
 - (b) Economic and social benefits outrunning its private marginal cost
 - (c) Private economic benefits far outrunning its social marginal cost
 - (d) Low private marginal cost but high social marginal cost

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Suppose an oil refinery is launched.
- The private marginal costs refer to the establishment costs. Social marginal cost refers to the price the community has to pay in terms of sacrificing natural resources, bearing pollution, oil spills etc.
- High social MC should be discouraged.
- However, if the plant provides greater benefits for the locals in terms of employment, introduces ecological measures and reduces the social MC, its economic benefits will outweigh its cost and thus preferable.

Refer: <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/shashi-tharoor-slams-proposed-eia-notification/article31560619.ece>

110. The aerial distance between the capital of India and capital of X is the greatest among the following given options: X is?

- (a) Philippines
- (b) Cambodia
- (c) East Timor
- (d) Laos



Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **East Timor lies farthest from India in the South-east Asian countries.** It is an island ringed by coral reefs with high marine biodiversity.



Refer: [Google Maps](https://www.google.com/maps)

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 14th -May-2020

111. Consider the following statements:

1. Under the new definition, a micro enterprise was defined as a unit where the annual turnover does not exceed Rs 5 crore
2. A medium enterprise was defined as a unit where the annual turnover is more than Rs 75 crore but not exceeding Rs 250 crore

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:

- With the changed definition both investment and turn over is used to define MSMEs. Under the new definition a firm with turn over of Rs 5 crore is to be called a micro unit, of Rs 50 crore will be called as small unit **and turn over greater than Rs 100 core is to be called as Medium unit.**



Existing and Revised Definition of MSMEs



Existing MSME Classification			
Criteria : Investment in Plant & Machinery or Equipment			
Classification	Micro	Small	Medium
Mfg. Enterprises	Investment < Rs. 25 lac	Investment < Rs. 5 cr.	Investment < Rs. 10 cr.
Services Enterprise	Investment < Rs. 10 lac	Investment < Rs. 2 cr.	Investment < Rs. 5 cr.

Revised MSME Classification			
Composite Criteria : Investment And Annual Turnover			
Classification	Micro	Small	Medium
Manufacturing & Services	Investment < Rs. 1 cr.	Investment < Rs. 10 cr.	Investment < Rs. 20 cr.
	and Turnover < Rs. 5 cr.	and Turnover < Rs. 50 cr.	and Turnover < Rs. 100 cr.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/14/major-stimulus-measures/>

112. 'West Bank' is in news recently, it is located to the west of

- (a) Mediterranean Sea
- (b) Red Sea
- (c) Lebanon
- (d) Dead Sea

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **West Bank** 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**
- **Dead sea** is a salt lake bordered by Jordan to the east and **Israel and the West Bank to the west**. It lies in the Jordan Rift Valley, and its main tributary is the Jordan River.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/14/west-bank-and-issues-associated-2/>

113. The “one country, two systems” formula, sometimes mentioned in the news in reference to:

- (a) China
- (b) India
- (c) Israel
- (d) USA

Ans: (a)

Explanation: **China- Taiwan relations- Background:**

- China has claimed Taiwan through its “one China” policy since the Chinese civil war forced the defeated Kuomintang, or Nationalist, to flee to the island in 1949 and has vowed to bring it under Beijing’s rule, by force if necessary.
- China is Taiwan’s top trading partner, with trade totaling \$226 billion in 2018. Taiwan runs a large trade surplus with China.
- While Taiwan is self-governed and de facto independent, it has never formally declared independence from the mainland.
- Under the **“one country, two systems” formula**, Taiwan would have the right to run its own affairs; a similar arrangement is used in Hong Kong.
- Taiwan is a member of the World Trade Organization, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation and Asian Development Bank under various names.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/14/china-taiwan-relations/>

114. Recently, which one of the following organization has released ‘Global Energy Transition index’?

- (a) International Energy Agency



- (b) Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries
- (c) Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
- (d) World Economic Forum

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **World Economic Forum has released its global Energy Transition index.**
- The Energy Transition Index (ETI) is a fact-based ranking intended to enable policy-makers and businesses to plot the course for a successful energy transition.
- The benchmarking of energy systems is carried out annually across countries. Part of the World Economic Forum's Fostering Effective Energy Transition initiative, it builds on its predecessor, the Energy Architecture Performance Index. The ETI does not only benchmark countries on their current energy system performance, but also provides a forward looking lens as it measures their readiness for the energy transition.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/14/wefs-global-energy-transition-index/>

115. 'Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020' has been released by:

- (a) UNFCCC Secretariat
- (b) IUCN
- (c) UNEP Secretariat
- (d) FAO

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020** has been released by the United Nations **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**.
- The FRA 2020 has examined the status of, and trends in, more than 60 forest-related variables in 236 countries and territories in the period 1990–2020.

Key findings:

- Forest area has declined all across the world in the past three decades. The world lost 178 mha of forest since 1990, an area the size of Libya.
- The rate of forest loss has also declined due to the growth of sustainable management. The rate of forest loss in 2015-2020 declined to an estimated 10 million hectares (mha), down from 12 million hectares (mha) in 2010-2015.
- The area of naturally regenerating forests worldwide decreased since 1990, but the area of planted forests increased by 123 mha.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/14/global-forest-resources-assessment-2020/>

116. 'Archaeological Survey of India' is an Indian government agency attached to the



- (a) Ministry of Tourism
- (b) Ministry of Mines
- (c) Ministry Of Science And Technology
- (d) Ministry of Culture

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **It is an Indian government agency attached to the Ministry of Culture** that is responsible for archaeological research and the conservation and preservation of cultural monuments in the country. It was founded in 1861 by Alexander Cunningham who also became its first Director-General.
- Important publications:
 - Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum.
 - Annual Report on Indian Epigraphy.
 - Epigraphia Indica.
 - Ancient India.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/14/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-14-may-2020/>

117. The success for plant tissue culture is based on the principle called totipotency which is

- (a) The potential of cells to divide rapidly via budding
- (b) The ability of undifferentiated plant tissues to differentiate into functional plants when cultured in vitro
- (c) The function of storing large volumes of information within a cell
- (d) The unconscious networking between cells based on their mRNA

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Plant tissue culture is the culture and maintenance of plant cells or organs in sterile, nutritionally and environmentally supportive conditions (in vitro).
- It includes the cultural techniques for regeneration of functional plants from embryonic tissues, tissue fragments, isolated cells etc.
- In commercial settings, tissue culture is often referred to as micro-propagation, which is in fact one of the techniques in tissue culture.
- Micro-propagation refers to the production of whole plants from cell cultures derived from explants (the initial piece of tissue put into culture) or meristem cells.
- You can read this to understand it in detail

Refer: <https://passel2.unl.edu/view/lesson/54f48d0cd240>

118. Which of these states is NOT a member of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)?

- (a) Saudi Arabia
- (b) Iraq



- (c) Iran
(d) Kuwait

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **It is a political and economic union consisting of all Arab states of the Persian Gulf, except for Iraq.** Its member states are 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).
- In order to reduce their dependence on oil in the future, the GCC states are pursuing unprecedented structural reform initiatives.
- **Why Iran is not a Gulf country?**
 - Iran only uses the term "Persian Gulf" and does not recognize the naming when it is referred to as "Arabian Gulf" or just the "Gulf". Iran does not consider the latter an impartial usage, and views it as an active contribution to the abandonment of the historical name.



Refer: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Gulf-Cooperation-Council>

119. River Cauvery forms three big islands, on her journey from Talacauvery to join the Bay of Bengal Sea, which are major pilgrimage centres. These islands are

- (a) Baratang, Elephanta and Mausuni
(b) Shriharikota, Anjediva, Betdwarka
(c) Agatti, Keeling and Majuli
(d) Srirangapatna, Shivanasamudra and Srirangam

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- At every point where the River Kaveri (Cauvery) splits to form an island, there is a Ranganathaswamy temple.
- The first one is at **Srirangapatna ('Adi Ranga')**, the second one is here at **Shivanasamudram ('Madhya Ranga')** and the third at **Tiruchirapalli in Srirangam ('Antya Ranga')**.



- The uniqueness of Sri Ranganthaswamy Temple in Shivasamudra is that Adishesha, the snake, is seven-headed whereas in the other two temples that form the trio, the snake is a five-headed one.
- The icon is believed to be a **Shaligrama Shila** or in other words a Black Fossil Stone.



120. Assume a boy is swinging on a swing in sitting position and the time period of the swing is T . If the boy now stands up on the swing, the time period of swing will

- (a) Increase by some amount
- (b) Reduce to zero instantly due to the vertical weight of the boy
- (c) Remain unchanged
- (d) Decrease by some amount

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- A swing behaves like a pendulum. So, the time period of a swing is equivalent to that of a suspended pendulum ($T = 2\pi \sqrt{l/g}$).
- The effective length of the pendulum is taken from its point of suspension (hanging) to its centre of gravity.
- When the boy stands on the swing, the centre of gravity will shift above due to the distribution of mass upwards in the swing (imagine mass standing on the swing).
- As Centre of gravity shifts upwards, the effective length of the swing/ pendulum will decrease from the point it has been hanged to. Therefore time period decreases.

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

121. Consider the following statements:

1. Food Corporation of India (FCI) is a statutory set up in 1956
2. At present FCI is only implementing Government of India food programme and not involved in any commercial venture



3. The issue prices declared by GOI under different schemes are much higher than the cost of food grains procured by FCI

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Food Corporation of India (FCI) is a statutory Organization constituted under Food Corporation's Act, 1964** and has been carrying out its operations since 1965 with an objective to trade in food grains and other foodstuffs and for matters connected therewith and incidentals thereto. **At present FCI is only implementing Government of India food programme and not involved in any commercial venture.**
- Main operation of FCI includes procurement of food grains at minimum support price declared by Government of India, store food grains so procured, transport the surplus food grains to deficit states and issue it to State Governments under Public Distribution System at a price decided by the Government of India.
- Since, **the issue prices declared by Government of India under different schemes are much lower than the cost of food grains procured, the differential amount is reimbursed to FCI as food subsidy by the Government of India.** FCI also maintains buffer stocks of food grains as mandated by the Government of India and intervene in the domestic market to control the rising prices of the food grains.

Refer: <http://fci.gov.in/finances.php?view=26>

<https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/15/economic-stimulus-package/>

122. Consider the following statements:

1. The President can pardon death sentence while governor cannot.
2. Both the governor and the President have concurrent power in respect of suspension, remission and commutation of death sentence.
3. The pardoning power of the President is independent of the Judiciary.

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: (d)

Explanation:



- Stat3: Article 72 of the Constitution empowers the President to grant pardons to persons who have been tried and convicted of any offence in all cases where the:
 - Punishment or sentence is for an offence against a Union Law;
 - Punishment or sentence is by a court martial (military court); and
 - Sentence is a sentence of death.
- **The pardoning power of the President is independent of the Judiciary; it is an executive power.** But, the President while exercising this power, does not sit as a court of appeal. The object of conferring this power on the President is two-fold: (a) to keep the door open for correcting any judicial errors in the operation of law; and, (b) to afford relief from a sentence, which the President regards as unduly harsh.
- Stat1 and 2: The President can pardon death sentence while governor cannot. Even if a state law prescribes death sentence, the power to grant pardon lies with the President and not the governor. However, the governor can suspend, remit or commute a death sentence. In other words, both the governor and the President have concurrent power in respect of suspension, remission and commutation of death sentence.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/15/death-penalty-sentencing-in-trial-courts/>

123. Consider the following statements about Shanghai Cooperation

Organization:

1. It is a Eurasian political, economic, and security alliance
2. The SCO Secretariat based in Shanghai and the Executive Committee of the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) based in Tashkent

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 Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) is a Eurasian political, economic, and security alliance**, the creation of which was announced on 15 June 2001 in Shanghai, China by the leaders of China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan
- Stat2: The organisation has two permanent bodies — the **SCO Secretariat based in Beijing** and the Executive Committee of the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) based in Tashkent.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/15/shanghai-cooperation-organization/>



124. Consider the following statements:

1. G20 is an international forum for the governments and central bank governors from 20 countries and the European Union (EU).
2. India, China, Japan, Singapore and South Korea are the major member nations of G20.

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 G20 (or Group of Twenty)** is an international forum for the governments and central bank governors from **19 countries and the European Union (EU)**.
- Stat2: Full membership of the G20:
-
- Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, **China**, France, Germany, **India**, Indonesia, Italy, **Japan**, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, **South Korea**, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States and the European Union.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/15/g20/>

125. Consider the following statements about Commonwealth of Nations:

1. It is a political association of 63 member states, nearly all former territories of the British Empire.
2. It was established in 1949 by the London Declaration.

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: **Commonwealth of Nations**

- Former name — British Commonwealth.
- Composition: intergovernmental organisation of 53 member states that are mostly former territories of the British Empire.
- It operates by intergovernmental consensus of the member states.
- Established in 1949 by the London Declaration.
- Structure: Head of the Commonwealth — Queen Elizabeth II is the Head of the Commonwealth. The position is symbolic.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/15/commonwealth-health-ministers-meeting/>

126. National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) is headed by:

- (a) Union Home Minister



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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- On 23 December 2005, the Government of India enacted the Disaster Management Act, which envisaged the creation of **National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA). It is headed by the Prime Minister.**
- **State Disaster Management Authorities (SDMAs) headed by respective Chief Ministers**, to spearhead and implement a holistic and integrated approach to Disaster Management in India.
- NDMA, as the apex body, is mandated to lay down the policies, plans and guidelines for Disaster Management to ensure timely and effective response to disasters

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/15/national-disaster-management-authority-ndma/>

127. Consider the following Rivers:

1. Dibang
2. Lohit
3. Kameng
4. Manas

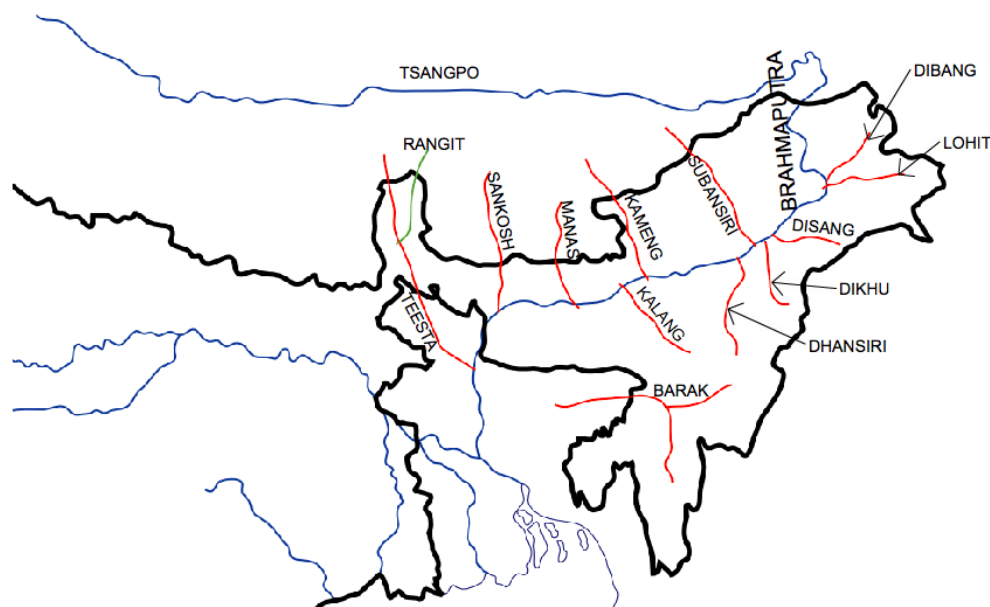
Which of the above are right bank tributaries of Brahmaputra?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation: Tributaries of Brahmaputra River

- Left: Dibang River, called by Dimasa tribe, Lohit River, Dhansiri River, Kolong River
- Right: Kameng River, Manas River, Beki River, Raidak River, Jaldhaka River, Teesta River, Subansiri River



Refer: facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/15/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-15-may-2020/>

128. Consider the following about Sal tree.

1. It is a non-flowering hardwood tree.
 2. It is found as a deciduous tree in all climatic regions of India.
- Which of the above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Stat1: **Sal is one of the most important sources of hardwood timber in India**, with hard, coarse-grained wood that is light in colour when freshly cut, and becoming dark brown with exposure. However, **it is a flowering tree (April-May is the flowering time)**.
- Stat2: **In wetter areas, it is evergreen; in drier areas, it is dry season deciduous, shedding most of the leaves in between February to April, leafing out again in April and May.**
- It is the state tree of Jharkhand. Sal is moderate to slow growing tree, which can grow up to 30-35 m tall.
- In Buddhist tradition, it is said that Guatama Buddha was born under the branches of this tree while his mother was en route to birth him in his grandfather's kingdom.
- Sal trees are found from Burma in the East, to Assam, Bengal, Nepal, the Deccan Plateau, going up to the foothills of the Shivaliks on the left bank of the Yamuna river.



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

129. Why do we feel colder on clear nights than on cloudy nights?

1. Clouds absorb infrared radiation to keep the earth warm.
2. Clouds create a greenhouse effect by preventing the loss of heat energy stored in the air.

Which of the above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Clouds and certain gases which absorb infrared radiation keep the Earth warm. Water vapor, carbon dioxide and methane are powerful greenhouse gases.
- When it is clear at night, the air usually contains much less water vapor than when the sky is cloudy. Therefore the Earth cools much faster during a clear night than during a cloudy night.
- Clouds are made of tiny droplets of liquid or frozen water. Clouds act like blankets which prevent heat energy stored in the air and soil from leaving the Earth in the form of infrared radiation. Therefore, both 1 and 2 are correct.

Refer: University of Illinois-

[http://ww2010.atmos.uiuc.edu/\(Gh\)/wwhlpr/fcst_temps_cloud_cover.rxml](http://ww2010.atmos.uiuc.edu/(Gh)/wwhlpr/fcst_temps_cloud_cover.rxml)

130. It is the first marine biosphere reserve in Asia, located in the Southern part of the Bay of Bengal. The globally endangered dugong resides here. The biosphere reserve is

- (a) Bhitarkanika Reserve
- (b) Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve



(c) Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve

(d) Dibru-Saikhowa Reserve

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The Gulf of Mannar is the biologically richest coastal region in India with 3,600 species of plants and animals known to live within its boundaries.
- Vital to the ecology of the reserve are many species of mangrove which act as important fish nurseries.
- The reserve covers more than 10,500 sq. km and has many islands with continuous stretches of coral reef.
- The most direct threat to the Marine Reserve is the proposed Sethu Samudram Canal on the coast of Tamil Nadu. The canal threatens to destroy the near pristine Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve

Refer: https://www.forests.tn.gov.in/pages/view/gulf_of_mannar_mnp

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131. Consider the following statements with reference to Defence Testing Infrastructure Scheme (DTIS):

1. This Scheme has an outlay of Rs 4000 crore for creating state of the art testing infrastructure for defence sector.
2. The projects under the Scheme will be provided with up to 75% government funding in the form of 'Grant-in-Aid'.

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: To give a boost to domestic defence and aerospace manufacturing, the government has approved the launch of **Defence Testing Infrastructure Scheme (DTIS)** with an outlay of **Rs 400 crore** for creating state of the art testing infrastructure for this sector.
- Stat2: **The projects under the Scheme will be provided with up to 75% government funding in the form of 'Grant-in-Aid'**. The remaining 25% of the project cost will have to be borne by the



Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) whose constituents will be Indian private entities and State Governments

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/16/defence-testing-infrastructure-scheme-dtis/>

132. Consider the following statements:

1. India was one of the 44 original signatories to the agreements reached at Bretton Woods that established the IBRD and IMF.
2. The World Bank Group comprises five institutions managed by their member countries.

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:

- Stat1: The cooperation between the World Bank and India goes back to the foundation of the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development in 1944. **As one of 44 countries, India prepared the agenda for the Bretton Woods Conference in June 1944.** The Indian delegation was led by Jeremy Raisman, who was a finance member of the Indian government and proposed the name "International Bank for Reconstruction and Development". India received its first bank loan of US\$34million from the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development in November 1948 for railway rehabilitation. Since then, India has become the country with the largest country program.
- Stat2: **There are five "closely associated institutions" that each have a distinct role" and together form, the World Bank**—the IBRD, the International Development Association (IDA), the International Finance Corporation (IFC), that "invests in private firms and promotes entrepreneurship", the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), that guarantees loans, and the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID).
- Their mission is to "fight poverty and improve living standards for people in the developing world." By 2018, the World Bank Group was "one of the world's largest sources of funding and knowledge for developing countries." Of the five institutions, the IBRD and the IDA are the World Bank's two largest units. **When a country reaches a GDP per person over US\$1,145, they are no longer eligible for IDA financial support.** For example, of the BRIC countries, China was no longer eligible in 1999 and by 2014, neither was India.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/16/world-bank-pledges-1-bn-to-boost-indias-social-safety-net/>

133. In the budget speech of 2018-19, a new Scheme “Operation Greens” was announced on the line of “Operation Flood”, in the context of “Operation Greens”, consider the following statements:

1. The Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare has launched the scheme
2. Currently, “Operation Greens” seeks to stabilize the supply of Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) crops only

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: In the budget speech of 2018-19, **a new Scheme “Operation Greens”** was announced on the line of “Operation Flood”, with an outlay of Rs.500 crore to promote Farmer Producers Organizations, agri-logistics, processing facilities and professional management. Operation Greens seeks to stabilize the supply of Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) crops and to ensure availability of TOP crops throughout the country round the year without price volatility.
 - **The Ministry of Food Processing Industries has launched the scheme.** NAFED will be the Nodal Agency to implement price stabilisation measures.
- Stat2: Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday announced that **Operation Green will be expanded with an additional fund of Rs 500 crore and extended from tomatoes, onions and potatoes to all fruits and vegetables.**



- The scheme will feature a 50% subsidy on transportation from surplus to deficient markets and 50% subsidy on storage, including cold storage.
- It will be piloted for six months and expanded and extended thereafter. It looks at bringing better price realisation to farmers, reduce wastage and affordability of products for consumers.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/16/atmanirbhar-bharat-abhiyan/>

134. Recently the Computer Emergency Response of Team (CERT) of India has issued warning against “EventBot”, it is a/an/the:

- (a) Virus
- (b) Hoax
- (c) Worm
- (d) Malware

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The Computer Emergency Response of Team (CERT) of India has issued warning against a **new malware called “EventBot”**.
- What’s the Difference Between Malware, Trojan, Virus, and Worm?
 - **Malware** is defined as a software designed to perform an unwanted illegal act via the computer network. It could be also defined as software with malicious intent.
 - Malware can be classified based on how they get executed, how they spread, and/or what they do. Some of them are discussed below.
 - **Virus**: A program that can infect other programs by modifying them to include a possible evolved copy of itself.
 - **Worms**: Disseminated through computer networks, unlike viruses, computer worms are malicious programs that copy themselves from system to system, rather than infiltrating legitimate files.
 - **Trojans**: Trojan or trojan horse is a program that generally impairs the security of a system. Trojans are used to create back-doors (a program that allows outside access into a secure network) on computers belonging to a secure network so that a hacker can have access to the secure network.
 - **Hoax**: An e-mail that warns the user of a certain system that is harming the computer. The message thereafter instructs the user to run a procedure (most often in the form of a download) to correct the harming system. When this program is run, it invades the system and deletes an important file.
 - **Spyware**: Invades a computer and, as its name implies, monitors a user’s activities without consent. Spywares are usually forwarded through unsuspecting e-mails with bonafide e-mail i.ds. Spyware continues to infect millions of computers globally.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/16/eventbot/>

135. Consider the following statements about Cinchona:

1. Cinchona trees are evergreen with simple, oppositely arranged leaves.
 2. The bark of Cinchona contains quinine and is useful against malaria.
- 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:

- **Cinchona, (genus Cinchona)**, genus of about 23 species of plants, mostly trees, in the madder family (Rubiaceae), native to the Andes of South America.
- **Cinchona trees are evergreen with simple, oppositely arranged leaves.** The tubular flowers are small and usually creamy white or rose in colour. The flowers are borne in terminal clusters, and the petals have characteristically hairy margins. The fruit is a small capsule.
- **Cinchona tree.**



- **Cinchona tree bark.**
 - The bark of some species contains quinine and is useful against malaria. During the 300 years between its introduction into Western medicine and its medical use during World War I, quinine from cinchona was the only effective remedy for malaria.
-



Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/16/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-16-may-2020/>

136. Consider the following statements:

1. Rights issues are used by companies seeking to raise capital without increasing debt.
 2. Shareholders are obliged to purchase shares offered in a rights issue.
- 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:

- A rights issue is an offering of shares made to existing shareholders in proportion to their existing shareholding. Companies often offer shares in a rights issue at a discount on the market price.
- Rights issues are used by companies seeking to raise capital without increasing debt.
- **Shareholders are not obliged to purchase shares offered in a rights issue.**

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/16/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-16-may-2020/>



137. Consider the following statements:

1. Crocodiles tend to live in saltwater habitats, while alligators hang out in freshwater marshes and lakes.
2. Gharials are most adapted to the calmer areas in the deep fast moving rivers.
3. Alligators have elongated snouts.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- Stat3: **The Gharial (*Gavialis gangeticus*) and Tomistoma (*Tomistoma schlegelii*) have greatly elongated snouts.** This elongation has been achieved more by compacting the cranial part of the skull, at the rear, than by elongation of the whole head. Thus, the head length of a 3 m long Gharial is not very different from the head length of a Saltwater Crocodile of the same total length - Gharials simply have a far greater proportion of the head allocated to snout.



- Stat2: Gharials are most adapted to the calmer areas in the deep fast moving rivers. The physical attributes of the gharial do not make it very suited for moving about on land. In fact the only reasons the gharial leaves the water is to either bask in the sun or to nest on the sandbanks of the rivers.
- Stat1: What's the Difference Between Alligators and Crocodiles?
 - **Snout shape:** Alligators have wider, U-shaped snouts, while crocodile front ends are more pointed and V-shaped.
 - **Toothy grin:** When their snouts are shut, crocodiles look like they're flashing a toothy grin, as the fourth tooth on each side of the lower jaw sticks up over the upper lip. For



alligators, the upper jaw is wider than the lower one, so when they close their mouths, all their teeth are hidden.

- **Home base:** Crocodiles tend to live in saltwater habitats, while alligators hang out in freshwater marshes and lakes.



Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/16/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-16-may-2020/>

138. “GOAL (Going Online As Leaders)” programme, sometimes mentioned in the news, it has been launched by Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) in partnership with:

- (a) Amazon
- (b) Google
- (c) Facebook
- (d) Tik Tok

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **GOAL (Going Online As Leaders)” programme:**

- **Launched by Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) in partnership with Facebook.**
- Aims to provide mentorship to tribal youth through digital mode.
- Under this, 5,000 young tribal entrepreneurs, professionals, artisans and artists will be trained by experts from different disciplines on digital skills under digital entrepreneurship program.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/16/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-16-may-2020/>

139. What is the IUCN status of Gharial (Gavial or fish eating crocodile)?

- (a) Vulnerable
- (b) Endangered
- (c) Critically Endangered
- (d) Extinct in the wild

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Key facts:
- **Critically Endangered— IUCN Red List.**



- The male gharial has a distinctive boss at the end of the snout, which resembles an earthenware pot.
- **Habitat**— foremost flowing rivers with high sand banks that they use for basking and building nests. Gharials once inhabited all the major river systems of the Indian Subcontinent, from the Irrawaddy River in the east to the Indus River in the west. Their distribution is now limited to only 2% of their former range
- **India:** Girwa River, Chambal River, Ken River, Son River, Mahanadi River, Ramganga River
- Nepal: Rapti-Narayani River
- **Threats:** Hunting for skins, trophies and indigenous medicine, and their eggs collected for consumption, Decrease of riverine habitat as dams, barrages, irrigation canals and artificial embankments were built; siltation and sand-mining changed river courses

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/16/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-16-may-2020/>

140. Consider the following statements about Chambal River:

1. It is the right bank tributary of the Yamuna River in central India.
2. Chambal River hosts 'Gangetic River Dolphins'.

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 Chambal River is a tributary of the Yamuna River in central India, and thus forms part of the greater Gangetic drainage system.
- **Tributaries of Yamuna River**
 - - left: Hindon, Tons, Giri, Rishiganga, Hanuman Ganga, Sasur Khaderi
 - - right: **Chambal**, Betwa, Ken, Sindh, Baghain
- The perennial Chambal originates at Janapav, south of Mhow town, near Manpur Indore, on the south slope of the Vindhya Range in Madhya Pradesh.
- The Chambal River is considered pollution free and hosts an amazing riverine faunal assemblage including 2 species of crocodilians – the mugger and gharial, 8 species of freshwater turtles, smooth-coated otters, gangetic river dolphins, skimmers, black-bellied terns, sarus cranes and black-necked storks, amongst others.

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



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

141. Consider the following statements:

1. The Chief Justice of India is the Executive Chairman of the NALSA
 2. There is no court fee payable when a matter is filed in a Lok Adalat
 3. The jurisdiction of the Permanent Lok Adalats is upto 25 lakhs
- Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Stat1: The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has been constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 to provide free Legal Services to the weaker sections of the society. **The Chief Justice of India is the Patron-in-Chief and the senior most Judge of the Supreme Court of India is the Executive Chairman of the Authority.**
- Stat2: NALSA along with other Legal Services Institutions conducts Lok Adalats. Lok Adalat is one of the alternative dispute redressal mechanisms. Lok Adalats have been given statutory status under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. **There is no court fee payable when a matter is filed in a Lok Adalat.** If a matter pending in the court of law is referred to the Lok Adalat and is settled subsequently, the court fee originally paid in the court on the complaints/petition is also refunded back to the parties.
- Stat3: The jurisdiction of the **Permanent Lok Adalats** is upto **Rs. One Crore.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/18/national-legal-services-authority-nalsa-2/>

142. Consider the following statements about World Health Assembly:

1. World Health Assembly is the world's highest health policy setting body
 2. WHA elects the Director-General of World Health Organization
- 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: (c)

Explanation:

- **The World Health Assembly is the decision-making body of WHO.**
- It is attended by delegations from all WHO Member States and focuses on a specific health agenda prepared by the Executive Board.
- **The main functions of the World Health Assembly** are to determine the policies of the Organization, appoint the Director-General, supervise financial policies, and review and approve the proposed programme budget.
- The Health Assembly is held annually in Geneva, Switzerland.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/18/international-health-regulations/>

143. Consider the following statements about International Telecommunication Union (ITU):

1. Plenipotentiary Conference is the ITU's main decision-making body
 2. Membership of ITU is open to all Member States of the United Nations
- 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: (c)

Explanation:

International Telecommunication Agency (ITU) is an agency of the United Nations (UN) whose purpose is to coordinate telecommunication operations and services throughout the world.

- Stat1: The **Plenipotentiary Conference is the supreme organ of the ITU**. It **meets every four years**. The Conference determines the policies, direction and activities of the Union, as well as elects the members of other ITU organs.
- Stat2: There are 193 Member States of the ITU, including all UN member states except the Republic of Palau, plus the Vatican City.
 - **Membership of ITU is open to only UN members**, which may join the Union as Member States, as well as to private organizations like carriers, equipment manufacturers, funding bodies, research and development organizations and international and regional telecommunication organizations, which may join ITU as non-voting Sector Members.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/18/international-telecommunications-union-itu/>

144. Consider the following statements:



1. Power Finance Corporation (PFC) enjoys the status of Maharatna Company.
2. Rural Electrification Corporation limited (REC) provides loan to State Electricity Boards.

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: (a)

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

- Stat1: **Power Finance Corporation (PFC)** is an Indian financial institution. Established in 1986, it is the financial back bone of Indian Power Sector. It enjoys the status of **Navratna Company** in India.
 - PFC is also the nodal agency for the implementation of the ambitious Ultra Mega Power Plants (UMPPs) and the R-APDRP programme of Govt. of India. The company also has the mechanism of rating different state Power Utilities on its performance.
- Stat2: **Rural Electrification Corporation limited (REC)** is a public Infrastructure Finance Company in India's power sector. The company is a Public Sector Undertaking and finances and promotes rural electrification projects across India. The company provides loans to Central/ State Sector Power Utilities in the country, State Electricity Boards, Rural Electric Cooperatives, NGOs and Private Power Developers.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/18/why-the-govt-had-to-inject-money-into-the-power-sector/>

145. 'microRNA' is/are:

- (a) coding molecules
- (b) non-coding molecules
- (c) found only in animals
- (d) None of the above

Ans: (b)

Explanation: **microRNA:**

- **They are non-coding molecules, meaning that they do not translate into protein.**
- They are part of our line of attack against a viral infection.
- They fight the virus by latching on to the virus's genetic material (RNA) and cutting it.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/18/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-18-may-2020/>

146. National Migrant Information System (NMIS) developed by:

- (a) NITI Aayog



- (b) Ministry of Labour and Employment
- (c) National Disaster Management Authority
- (d) Indian Space Research Organisation

Ans: (c)

Explanation: National Migrant Information System (NMIS):

- It is a central online repository on Migrant Workers to facilitate their seamless movement across States.
- Developed by National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA).
- It has additional advantages like contact tracing, which may be useful in overall COVID-19 response work.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/18/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-18-may-2020/>

147. These are Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PTG) residing in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands (A&N). The government had launched a specific policy notification in 2015 for protection of these tribes. It can be which of the following?

- (a) Koyas
- (b) Malmis
- (c) Shom pens
- (d) Aminidivis

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- What makes the Shompens distinct from the four other PVTGs of Andaman and Nicobar Islands — Jarawas, Great Andamanese, Onges and Sentinelese — is that they are the only tribe in the region with Mongoloid features. The other PVTGs have Negroid features.
- Different groups of Shompens have developed different levels of symbiotic relationship — particularly a barter system with the Great Nicobarese who are coastal dwellers and categorised as a Scheduled Tribe and others who have settled on the island.
 - Pandanus (a tropical plant found in the islands), whose fruits resemble the woody pineapple, is the staple food of the Shompens.
 - Marriage by capturing women from different groups and sub-groups is one of the customs of the Shompen society.

Refer: <https://tribal.nic.in/notificationAndaman.aspx>

148. In India, expenditure on poverty alleviation programmes is considered a part of

- (a) Capital expenditure as it augments the human resources of India
- (b) Revenue expenditure as it is largely a consumptive expenditure
- (c) Non-tax expenditure as such programmes must be financed from borrowing
- (d) Any of the above depending on how the programme is designed

Ans: (b)



Explanation:

- All expenditures incurred by the government are either of revenue kind or current kind or compulsive kind. The basic identity of such expenditures is that they are of consumptive kind and do not involve creation of productive assets.
- They are either used in running of a productive process or running a government. A broad category of things that fall under such expenditures in India are:
 - Interest payment by the government on the internal and external loans;
 - Salaries, Pension and Provident Fund paid by the government to government employees;
 - Subsidies forwarded to all sectors by the government;
 - Defence expenditures by the government;
 - Postal Deficits of the government;
 - Law and order expenditures (i.e., police & paramilitary);
 - Expenditures on social services (includes all social sector expenditures as education, health care, social security, poverty alleviation, etc.) and general services (tax collection, etc.);
 - Grants given by the government to Indian states and foreign countries.

Refer: <https://www.prsindia.org/parliamenttrack/budgets/union-budget-2020-21-analysis>

149. If the tax expenditure is high in an economy, it implies that

- (a) Efficiency of tax administration is very poor
- (b) Taxation system has poor horizontal equity
- (c) Revenue foregone on account of tax exemptions is high
- (d) Both (a) and (b)

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Tax Expenditures, as the word might indicate, does not relate to the expenditures incurred by the Government in the collection of taxes. Rather it refers to the opportunity cost of taxing at concessional rates, or the opportunity cost of giving exemptions, deductions, rebates, deferrals credits etc. to the tax payers.
- Tax expenditures indicate how much more revenue could have been collected by the Government if not for such measures. In other words, it shows the extent of indirect subsidy enjoyed by the tax payers in the country.

Refer: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/revenue-foregone-to-corporates-estimated-at-rs-108785-crore/articleshow/70094553.cms?from=mdr>

150. Consider the following about Panchayat adalats.

1. They can be established by state governments.
2. They can be authorized to try offences listed under Indian Penal Code.



3. They can be endowed with judicial functions based on broad principles of natural justice.

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Stat1: For e.g. Karnataka had planned to launch a nyaya panchayat adalat. You can see rationale and proposals here [Source](#)
- Stat 2 and 3: A Nyaya Panchayat is a system of dispute resolution at village level in India. nyaya panchayats can be endowed with functions based on broad principles of natural justice and can tend to remain procedurally as simple as possible. They can be given civil and minor criminal jurisdiction.
- But they should never follow civil and criminal procedure code in letter and spirit. For e.g. the offences triable by the Delhi Panchayati Adalat includes some petty offences under the Indian Penal Code, Cattle Trespass Act and Delhi gambling Act.

Refer: <https://www.legalbites.in/distinction-panchayat-lok-adalat/>

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

151. 'D.B. Shekatkar Committee', sometimes mentioned in the news, is related to:

- (a) Economic Capital Framework
- (b) Interstate Migrant Issues
- (c) National Education Policy-2019
- (d) Military Reforms

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Government has accepted and implemented three important recommendations of Committee of Experts (CoE) under the **Chairmanship of Lt General D B Shekatkar (Retd) relating to border Infrastructure.**
- **Accepted recommendations:**
 - Speeding up road construction,
 - Outsourcing road construction work beyond optimal capacity of the Border Roads Organisation (BRO).
 - Mandatory to adopt Engineering Procurement Contract (EPC) mode for execution of all works costing more than Rs 100 crore.



- Delegating enhanced procurement powers from Rs 7.5 crore to Rs 100 crore to BRO, for domestic and foreign procurements.
- The land acquisition and all statutory clearances like forest and environmental clearance are also made part of approval of Detailed Project Report (DPR).
- With the adoption of EPC mode of execution, it is mandatory to award work only when 90 per cent of the statutory clearances have been obtained, implementing the recommendation of CoE regarding obtaining prior clearances before the commencement of the project.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/19/shekatkar-committee-recommendations/>

152. Recently which of the following initiative has been launched by GOI, to provide psychological support to students, teachers?

- (a) Arogya setu
- (b) PM e-VIDYA
- (c) PM e-CARE
- (d) Manodarpan

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The **Manodarpan initiative** is being launched to provide such support through a website, a toll-free helpline, national directory of counselors, interactive chat platform, etc. This initiative will **benefit all school going children in the country, along with their parents, teachers and the community of stakeholders in school education.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/19/initiatives-to-boost-education-sector/>

153. Consider the following statements:

1. Recently, a peace deal between the U.S. Government and the Taliban was signed in Doha.
2. The deal calls for U.S. and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) troops to leave Afghanistan.

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:

- **US and Taliban have signed a historic agreement- “Agreement for Bringing Peace to Afghanistan”- in Doha, Qatar.** It outlines a series of commitments from the US and the Taliban related to troop levels, counterterrorism, and the intra-Afghan dialogue aimed at



bringing about “a permanent and comprehensive ceasefire.” The agreement could pave the way to ending America’s longest-fought war.

- **Highlights of the agreement:**

- Military troops withdrawal: It lays out a 14-month timetable for the withdrawal of “all military forces of the United States, its allies, and Coalition partners, including all non-diplomatic civilian personnel, private security contractors, trainers, advisors, and supporting services personnel.”
- Release of prisoners: The agreement also calls for the release of 5,000 Taliban prisoners and 1,000 “prisoners of the other side” on the first day of intra-Afghan negotiations. The relevant sides have the goal of releasing all the remaining prisoners over the course of the subsequent three months.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/19/afghanistans-power-sharing-deal/>

154. Which one among the following is not a Baltic nation?

- (a) Lithuania
- (b) Estonia
- (c) Latvia
- (d) Slovakia

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Context: The **Baltic countries of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania** have started what is being referred to as a ‘travel bubble’ to help put their economies back on track post-Covid lockdowns.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/19/what-is-a-travel-bubble/>

155. Recently, Madhya Pradesh government launches 'Charan Paduka Campaign' for:

- (a) Police personnel's
- (b) Frontline health workers
- (c) Migrant laborers
- (d) Foreign tourists

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- It is a campaign launched in Madhya Pradesh for the migrant labourers passing through the state.
- Under this campaign, the migrant labourers going barefoot are being providing shoes and slippers to reduce their pain.
- The most notable thing is that this campaign is being conducted by the police at most places.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/19/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-19-may-2020/>

156. Consider the following statements about 'Pinanga Andamanensis':

1. It is an IUCN critically endangered species.
2. It is a deciduous tree that occurs in mixed hardwood forests.

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 **IUCN critically endangered species** and one of the least known among the endemic palms of the Andaman Islands.
- The name is derived from 'Penang', the modern-day Malaysian state.
- Its entire population of some 600 specimens naturally occurs only in a tiny, evergreen forest pocket in **South Andaman's Mount Harriet National Park**.
- Why in News?
 - The species is finding a second home at Thiruvananthapuram-based Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute (JNTBGRI).



Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/19/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-19-may-2020/>

157. 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

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: (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://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/mangroves.html>

158. *Off the coast of which among the following places was a century-old shipwreck in 2018 unearthed, followed by the discovery of a second shipwreck and the presence of the critically endangered species Goliath grouper?*

- (a) Bheemunipatnam
- (b) Nagapattinam
- (c) Kannur
- (d) Gopalpur-on-sea

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- In what could catapult Visakhapatnam into a top scuba diving destination in the world, a second shipwreck with a critically endangered species of Goliath grouper (considered to be the keystone species of an ecosystem) was discovered by a team of experienced divers and diving instructors recently in the sea off Bheemunipatnam, 45 km from the city of Vishakhapatnam. This comes a month after a century-old shipwreck was unearthed in the region.

Refer: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/andhra-pradesh/second-shipwreck-goliath-grouper-fish-found-near-vizag/article22683229.ece>

159. Betla National Park recently seen in news is located in

- (a) Odisha
- (b) Madhya Pradesh
- (c) Jharkhand
- (d) Telangana

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **The Betla National Park is located in Palamu district of Jharkhand state.**
- The **North Koyal River** and its tributaries flow through the northern portion of the park, producing grasslands.

Refer: <https://jharkhandtourism.gov.in/destinationDetails/70>



160. Consider the following statements:

1. Calcium Carbide (CaC_2) is used to artificially ripen the fruits.
2. Food adulteration has been treated as criminal offence in India.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?


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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Stat2: [Source](#): The Delhi High Court has been told by the AAP government that under the penal law, food adulteration is a cognisable offence against which the police can take action, including registration of FIRs.
- Stat1: The chemical widely used for artificially ripening fruits is calcium carbide (CaC_2) which contains arsenic and phosphorus, both of which can prove fatal for human beings. CaC_2 is a known carcinogen - an agent having the ability to alter human cells into cancerous cells.

Refer: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Delhi/food-adulteration-offence-under-ipc-says-govt/article30995150.ece>

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

161. With reference to 'Star Rating Of Garbage Free Cities Initiative', consider the following statements:

1. This initiative was launched by the NITI Aayog.
2. The Star Rating is supported by a robust verification mechanism by Quality Council 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:

- **Star Rating Of Garbage Free Cities**, an initiative launched by the **Ministry Of Housing And Urban Affairs**
- The star rating conditions are based on 25 key parameters across the solid waste management spectrum and has been designed to



both help cities assess their progress while encouraging them to move towards a better rating thereby improving their cities' overall cleanliness and aesthetics.

- How cities are give ratings?
 - **The Star Rating is supported by self-assessment and self-verification for achieving a certain star rating.**
 - It also ensures the involvement of citizen groups for a transparent system of self-declaration.
 - The self-declaration is further verified through **an independent third party agency appointed by MoHUA.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/20/garbage-free-star-rating-for-the-cities/>

162. Which of the following factors responsible for the intensification of cyclones in Bay of Bengal?

1. COVID19 lockdown impact
2. Increasing sea surface temperature
3. Effect of El-Nino

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Factors responsible for the intensification of cyclones in BoB:**
- Higher than normal temperatures in the Bay of Bengal (BoB) may be whetting 'super cyclones' and the lockdown, indirectly, may have played a role.
 - Cyclones gain their energy from the heat and moisture generated from warm ocean surfaces. This year, the BoB has **posted record summer temperatures** a fall-out, as researchers have warned, of **global warming** from fossil fuel emissions that has been heating up oceans.
 - **Lockdown impact:** Reduced particulate matter emissions during the lockdown meant fewer aerosols, such as black carbon, that are known to reflect sunlight and heat away from the surface.
- El Nino affects the flow of moisture-bearing winds from the cooler oceans towards India, negatively impact the summer monsoon, which accounts for over 70% of annual rainfall. It remains to be seen how it would actually evolve over the next few months, but if it does retain its strength after the summer, it could mar the prospects of a good monsoon in India.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/20/hotter-oceans-spawn-super-cyclones/>



163. Consider the following statements:

1. The Arabian Sea is comparatively less prone to cyclonic storms than the Bay of Bengal.
2. Bay of Bengal has higher salinity than Arabian Sea.

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: Arabian Sea is comparatively less prone to cyclonic storms than Bay of Bengal:

- **Temperature:** BOB is hotter than Arabian sea. Hot water temperature is the basic criteria for the development & intensification of cyclones.
- **Salinity: Arabian sea has higher salinity than BOB.** It's easier to heat & simultaneously evaporate water having lower salinity.
- **Location:** The typhoons originating in the Pacific Ocean too influences the cyclones in BOB, not the case in Arabian Sea.
- **Movement:** According to IMD cyclones originating in Arabian Sea are believed to move northwest. So they actually move away from Indian mainland.
- The Bay receives higher rainfall and constant inflow of fresh water from the Ganga and Brahmaputra rivers. This means that the Bay's surface water keeps getting refreshed, making it impossible for the warm water to mix with the cooler water below, making it ideal for a depression.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/20/hotter-oceans-spawn-super-cyclones/>

164. Consider the following statements about Vaccine Action Programme (VAP):

1. It is an Indo-EU bilateral program, which focuses on the development of safe and effective vaccines.
2. The programme is under implementation since 1987 under the Modi-Reagan Science & Technology Agreement.

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 VAP is an Indo-US bilateral program,** which supports a broad spectrum of activities relating to new and improved vaccines. The programme was designed to encompass laboratory-based research, evaluation of candidate vaccines, testing for clinical



development, vaccine quality control, delivery of vaccines and so on. All work is carried out within areas designated as VAP priorities by the VAP Joint Working Group (JWG) comprising of eminent scientists and policymakers from both countries.

- The programme resulted from the concerted efforts of Indian and U.S. scientists led by the Chief Science Advisors of Indian **Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi and US President Ronald Reagan**. In 1983, the India-US Science and Technology Initiative (STI) was established with a commitment of both countries to give high priority and financial support to the STI programmes which will be of mutual benefit to both the countries.
- The programme is under implementation since July, 1987 under the **Gandhi-Reagan Science & Technology Agreement**. Its present tenure is upto August, 2017. VAP is being implemented to promote focused and applied research on new and improved vaccines and immuno-diagnostics by bringing together leading Indian and US scientists.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/20/indo-us-vaccine-action-programme-vap/>

165. Recently, which one of the following state has launched Rajiv Gandhi Nyay Yojana?

- (a) Kerala
- (b) Rajasthan
- (c) Chhattisgarh
- (d) Jharkhand

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Rajiv Gandhi Nyay Yojana** will be launched by **Chhattisgarh** government to ensure “**minimum income availability**” to farmers of the state through direct bank transfer.
- The scheme will formally be launched in the state on May 21, the death anniversary of former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/20/rajiv-gandhi-nyay-yojana/>

166. When the sun is said to have gone into a state called the ‘solar minimum’, it means:

- (a) It is the period of high solar activity in the solar cycle of the Sun
- (b) Sky watchers may see more auroras
- (c) Sun hurls billion-ton clouds of electrified gas into space
- (d) Sun’s magnetic field weakens and provides less shielding from these cosmic rays

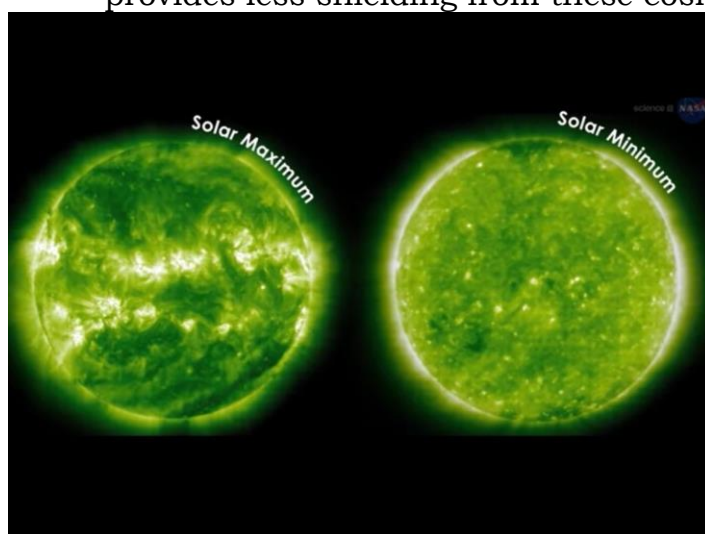
Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Solar minimum:** Sun has a cycle that lasts on average 11 years, and right now we are at the peak of that cycle.



- Every 11 years or so, sunspots fade away, bringing a period of relative calm. This is called the solar minimum. And it's a regular part of the sunspot cycle.
- **Implications:**
 - While intense activity such as sunspots and solar flares subside during solar minimum, that doesn't mean the sun becomes dull. Solar activity simply changes form. For instance, during solar minimum we can see the development of long-lived coronal holes.
 - But, this may cause health risks to astronauts travelling through space as "the sun's magnetic field weakens and provides less shielding from these cosmic rays."



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/20/what-is-solar-minimum-and-why-is-it-happening-now/>

167. Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve (TATR) is located in:

- (a) Manipur
- (b) Odisha
- (c) Telangana
- (d) Maharashtra

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **About TATR:**

- It is **Maharashtra's** oldest and largest national park.
- Created in 1995, the Reserve includes the Tadoba National Park and the Andhari Wildlife Sanctuary.
- Tadoba" is taken from the name of the god "Tadoba" or "Taru", worshipped by the tribes who live in the dense forests of the Tadoba and Andhari region, while "Andhari" refers to the Andhari river that meanders through the forest.
- Tadoba reserve covers the Chimur Hills, and the Andhari sanctuary covers the Moharli and Kolsa ranges.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/20/long-term-monitoring-of-tigers-co-predators-and-prey-species-in-tatr/>

168. Consider the following statements:

1. Any firm with investment up to Rs 1 crore and turnover under Rs 5 crore will be classified as “micro”.
2. A company with investment up to Rs 10 crore and turnover up to Rs 75 crore will be classified as “small”.

Which of the given above statements is/are not correct according to the revised definition of MSME in India?

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

Ans: (b)

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

- Days after changing the definition of MSMEs, the government has decided to further revise the criteria for medium units by enhancing the investment and turnover limits to up to Rs 50 crore and Rs 200 crore respectively.
- **According to the revised definition:**
- Any firm with investment up to **Rs 1 crore** and turnover under **Rs 5 crore** will be classified as “**micro**”.
- A company with investment up to **Rs 10 crore** and turnover up to **Rs 50 crore** will be classified as “**small**”.

Refer: facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/20/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-20-may-2020/>

169. ‘National Test Abhyas’ has been launched by:

- (a) National Informatics Centre
- (b) NITI Aayog
- (c) Centre for Development of Advanced Computing
- (d) None of the above

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The AI-powered mobile App has been developed by National Testing Agency (NTA) to enable candidates to take mock tests for upcoming exams such as JEE Main, NEET under the NTA’s purview.
- **Launched by Human Resources Development Ministry recently.**

Refer: facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/20/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-20-may-2020/>

170. Consider the following statements:



1. Indian National Committee for Space Research (INCOSPAR) was set up by the Government of India in 1962.
2. GSLV Mark III is a four-stage heavy lift launch vehicle developed by ISRO.

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: India decided to go to space when **Indian National Committee for Space Research (INCOSPAR) was set up by the Government of India in 1962**. With the visionary Dr Vikram Sarabhai at its helm, INCOSPAR set up the Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station (TERLS) in Thiruvananthapuram for upper atmospheric research.
- Stat2: **GSLV MkIII** is a **three-stage** heavy lift launch vehicle developed by ISRO. The vehicle has two solid strap-ons, a core liquid booster and a cryogenic upper stage.
- GSLV Mk III is designed to carry 4 ton class of satellites into Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO) or about 10 tons to Low Earth Orbit (LEO), which is about twice the capability of the GSLV Mk II.

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

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 21th -May-2020

171. Consider the following statements about Konark Sun Temple:

1. This temple follows the traditional style of Kalinga architecture
2. It was built by King Narasimhavarman I

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 temple follows the traditional style of **Kalinga architecture**. It is oriented towards the east so that the first rays of the sunrise strike the main entrance. The temple, built from



Khondalite rocks, was originally constructed at the mouth of the **river Chandrabhaga**, but the waterline has receded since then. The wheels of the temple are sundials, which can be used to calculate time accurately to a minute.

- Stat2: It was built by King **Narasimhadeva I**, the great ruler of Ganga dynasty.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/21/konark-sun-temple-2/>

172. Which of the following statements true regarding Konark Sun Temple:

1. This temple was also known as 'White Pagoda'.
 2. The Konark is the third link of Odisha's Golden Triangle.
- 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: **Konark Sun Temple** was also known as '**BLACK PAGODA**' due to its dark color and used as a navigational landmark by ancient sailors to Odisha. Similarly, the **Jagannath Temple in Puri** was called the "**White Pagoda**".
- Stat2: The Konark is the third link of Odisha's Golden Triangle. The first link is Jagannath Puri and the second link is Bhubaneswar (Capital city of Odisha).

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/21/konark-sun-temple-2/>

173. 'Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS)', sometimes mentioned in the news, This Scheme aims at mitigating the economic distress faced by:

- (a) Fugitive economic offenders
- (b) State owned DISCOM's
- (c) Interstate migrant worker's
- (d) MSMEs and MUDRA borrowers

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The Union Cabinet has given its approval for the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) for MSMEs and MUDRA borrowers.
- **Benefits of the scheme:**
 - The scheme aims to mitigate the distress caused by COVID-19 and the consequent lockdown, which has severely impacted manufacturing and other activities in the MSME sector.



- The scheme is expected to provide credit to the sector at a low cost, thereby enabling MSMEs to meet their operational liabilities and restart their businesses.
- By supporting MSMEs to continue functioning during the current unprecedented situation, the Scheme is also expected to have a positive impact on the economy and support its revival.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/21/emergency-credit-line-guarantee-scheme-eclgs/>

174. With reference to Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY), consider the following statements:

1. It is a Pension Scheme exclusively for the senior citizens aged 60 years and below.
2. The Scheme can be purchased offline as well as online through Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **About PMVVY:**

- It is a Pension Scheme exclusively for the senior citizens aged **60 years and above**.
- The Scheme can be purchased offline as well as online through **Life Insurance Corporation (LIC)** of India which has been given the sole privilege to operate this Scheme.
- Maximum investment: One can invest a maximum amount of ₹15 lakh under Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY) scheme. The tenure of the policy is set at 10 years.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/21/pradhan-mantri-vaya-vandan-vojana-pmvvy-2/>

175. With reference to Scheme for formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (FME), consider the following statements:

1. The Scheme would be monitored at Centre by FSSAI
2. It is a central sector scheme

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 Scheme would be monitored at Centre by an **Inter-Ministerial Empowered Committee (IMEC)** under the Chairmanship of Minister, FPI.
- Stat2: it is a '**Centrally Sponsored Scheme**'. Expenditure to be shared by Government of India and States at 60:40.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/21/scheme-for-formalization-of-micro-food-processing-enterprises-fme/>

176. Consider the following statements:

1. India is the third largest fish producer in the world.
2. As per the Economic Survey 2020, Kerala is the largest fish producing states in India.
3. The fish production in India has registered an average annual growth of 17.53% during last 5 years.

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

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **Here Directive word is not correct!!**

- Stat1: **India is the world's second largest fish producer** with exports worth more than 47,000 crore rupees.
- Stat2: **According to the statistics provided by the Department of Fisheries for the Economic Survey**, AP has emerged a clear winner. **Its growth in fish production from around 20,00,000 tonnes in 2013-14 to 34,49,560 tonnes in 2017-18 could be described as the fastest among the States.** Andhra Pradesh has left other States far behind in fish production. West Bengal came a distant second with 17,42,090 tonnes of fish production. The total fish production in the country stood at 1,25,90,280 tonnes. No other State had crossed 9,00,000 tonnes mark in fish production. Gujarat with the largest coastline in the country, stood third with a fish production at 8,34,530 tonnes. Odisha with 6,84,960 tonnes and Tamil Nadu with 6,81,940 tonnes of fish production got fourth and fifth places.
- Stat3: Fisheries sector in India has shown impressive growth with an average annual growth rate of 10.88% during the year from 2014-15 to 2018-19. **The fish production in India has registered an average annual growth of 7.53% during last 5 years and stood at an all-time high of 137.58 lakh metric tons during 2018-19.** The export of marine products stood at 13.93 lakh metric tons and valued at Rs.46,589 crores (USD 6.73 billion) during 2018-19.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/21/pradhan-mantri-matsya-sampada-yojana-pmmsy/>



177. Consider the following statements:

1. Blue Revolution was launched in during 7th Five Year Plan (FYP).
2. During the 8th Five-year plan, the intensive 'Marine Fisheries Programme' was launched.

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: **Blue Revolution:**

- The rapid increase in the production of fish and marine product through a package program is known as the blue revolution.
- It was launched in India during the seventh five-year plan that went from 1985 to 1990.
- It has brought improvement in aquaculture by adopting new techniques of fish breeding, fish rearing, fish marketing and fish export.
- Fishing is the primary source of livelihood for several communities in the India.
- India is the world's second largest fish producer with exports worth more than 47,000 crore rupees.
- Fisheries are in fact India's single largest agriculture export with a growth rate of 6 to 10 percent in the last five years in comparison the growth rate of the farm sector in the same period is around 2.5 percent.
- **India's blue revolution:**
 - **India's first blue revolution was launched during the seventh five-year plan from 1985 to 1990 during which the government sponsored the fish farmers development agency.**
 - The FFDA brought improvement in aquaculture by adopting new techniques of fish breeding, rearing, marketing and export.
 - **During the eight five-year plan from 1992 to 1997, the intensive Marine Fisheries programme was launched in which collaboration with multinational companies was encouraged over a period of time.**
 - Fishing harbors in Vishakhapatnam, Kochi and Port Blair were established.
 - A number of research centers have also been set up to increase the production and improvement in species.
 - The initiative once again picked up pace after the Modi government took over in 2014 to transform the sector with increased investment better training and infrastructure.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/21/pradhan-mantri-matsya-sampada-vojana-pmmsy/>

178. 'Agappe Chitra Magna' is a/an/the:

- (a) Marine wild species
- (b) Kerala's monsoon festival
- (c) Scroll painting found in south India
- (d) Nano particle

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **Agappe Chitra Magna:**

- **It is a magnetic nanoparticle-based RNA extraction kit for use during testing for the detection of COVID-19.**
- Developed by Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST) along with Agappe Diagnostics Ltd, an in vitro diagnostics manufacturing company based in Cochin.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/21/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-21-may-2020/>

179. 'May Fourth Movement' was an anti-imperialist, cultural, and political movement took place in:

- (a) Taiwan
- (b) Russia
- (c) Palestine
- (d) China

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **China's May Fourth Movement:**

- It is an intellectual revolution and sociopolitical reform movement that occurred in China on May 4th in 1919.
- The Movement unfolded sparked by the refusal of delegates at the Paris Peace Conference to return former German colonies in China to Chinese sovereignty at the conclusion of World War I.
- The students protested not only Western imperialism but their own government's weakness.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/21/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-21-may-2020/>

180. The terms 'Sonic booms, Mach number and shock waves' are sometimes seen in the news in the context of?

- (a) Theory of relativity
- (b) Study of Dark matter
- (c) Study of Aerodynamics
- (d) String theory

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Aerodynamics** is the way air moves around things. The rules of aerodynamics explain how an airplane is able to fly. **Anything that moves through air reacts to aerodynamics.** A rocket blasting off




the launch pad and a kite in the sky react to aerodynamics. Aerodynamics even acts on cars, since air flows around cars.

- **A sonic boom** is said to occur when an object travels through the air faster than the speed of sound and creates shock waves. This can lead to a huge emission in energy, usually in the form of sound, which can be similar to an explosion of thunderclap.
- **Effects:** The sonic boom is a continuous sound which is emitted by the aircraft all the while it is travelling at a supersonic speed. If the aircraft is flying at a low altitude, the sonic boom may also lead to tremors similar to earthquakes and shattering of glass.



Refer: Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/21/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-21-may-2020/>

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 22th -May-2020

181. Consider the following statements:

1. LPG is composed mainly of methane, while natural gas is composed of the lighter ethane.
2. PMUY is a scheme of the Ministry of Power for providing LPG connections to women from Below Poverty Line (BPL) households.

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!!**

- Stat1: **LPG** is composed mainly of **propane and butane**, while **natural gas** is composed of the **lighter methane and ethane**. Commercially available LPG is currently derived mainly from fossil fuels. Burning LPG releases carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas. The reaction also produces some carbon monoxide. Also LPG burns more cleanly than higher molecular weight hydrocarbons because it releases fewer particulates.[24]
- Stat2: PMUY is a scheme of the **Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas** for providing LPG connections to women from Below Poverty Line (BPL) households.
- Key feature: deposit-free LPG connection is given to the eligible household with financial assistance of Rs 1,600 per connection by the Centre.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/22/pm-ujwala-yojana-2/4>

182. Which of the following are the objectives of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)?

1. 120 days of guaranteed wage employment to rural unskilled labour
2. Reducing the cost of cultivation
3. Process of decentralization

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- MGNREGA, which is the largest work guarantee programme in the world, was enacted in 2005 with the primary objective of guaranteeing **100 days of wage** employment per year to rural households. Secondly, it aims at addressing causes of **chronic poverty through the 'works' (projects)** that are undertaken, and thus ensuring sustainable development. Finally, there is an emphasis on strengthening the **process of decentralisation** through giving a significant role to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in planning and implementing these works.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/22/mahatma-gandhi-national-rural-employment-guarantee-act-mgnrega-2/>

183. "Project LIFE-MGNREGA" is an initiative of:

- (a) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
- (b) Reserve Bank of India
- (c) Ministry of Rural Development
- (d) National Institution for Transforming India



Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Project for 'Livelihoods in Full Employment' under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (Project LIFE-MGNREGA) is an initiative of **Ministry of Rural Development**
- The project aims at promoting self-reliance and improving the skill-base of the MGNREGA workers, and thereby improving livelihoods of MGNREGA workers, so that they can move from the current partial employment to full employment status and thereby reduce their dependence on MGNREGS.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/22/mahatma-gandhi-national-rural-employment-guarantee-act-mgnrega-2/>

184. "General Financial Rules (GFR)", sometimes mentioned in the news in reference to:

- (a) Housing Loans
- (b) Power purchase agreement
- (c) Micro, small and medium enterprises
- (d) Public private partnership

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The government has notified amendments to **General Financial Rules (GFR)** to ensure that goods and services valued less than Rs 200 crore are being procured from domestic firms, **a move which will benefit MSMEs.**
- **Implications:**
- The amendments ensure that henceforth global tenders will be disallowed in government procurement up to Rs 200 crore, as announced in the Atma Nirbhar Bharat Package.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/22/general-financial-rules/>

185. With reference to Model Contract Farming Act, 2018, consider the following statements:

1. It has been drafted by NITI.
 2. As per the act, contract farming to be outside the ambit of APMC Act.
 3. It advocates no permanent structure can be developed on farmer land.
- Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Ministry of Agriculture came out with a draft Model Contract Farming Act, 2018.** The draft Model Act seeks to create a regulatory and policy framework for contract farming. Based on



this draft Model Act, legislatures of states can enact a law on contract farming.

- **Salient features :**

- The Act lays special emphasis on protecting the interests of the farmers, considering them as weaker of the two parties entering into a contract.
- Contracted produce is to be covered under crop / livestock insurance in operation.
- Contract framing to be outside the ambit of APMC Act.
- No permanent structure can be developed on farmers' land/premises
- No right, title of interest of the land shall vest in the sponsor.
- Promotion of Farmer Producer Organization (FPOs) / Farmer Producer Companies (FPCs) to mobilize small and marginal farmers has been provided.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/22/odisha-adopts-contract-farming-system/>

186. Consider the following statements:

1. Coir is a 100% natural fiber
2. Bristle coir is the longest variety of coir fibre
3. India is the world's largest exporter of coir fibre and coir fibre based products

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:

- National Rural Infrastructure Development Agency (NRIDA) has announced that coir geo textiles will be used for construction of rural roads under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY-III).
- **What is Coir geotextile?**
 - **Coir is a 100% natural fiber**, obtained from a renewable source – the coconut husk.
 - Coir Geo Textile is naturally resistant to rot, molds and moisture, and free from any microbial attack hence it needs no chemical treatment. It has a permeable, natural and strong fabric with high durability.
- **Bristle coir** is the longest variety of coir fibre. It is manufactured from retted coconut husks through a process called defibring. The coir fibre thus extracted is then combed using steel combs to make the fibre clean and to remove short fibres. Bristle coir fibre is used as bristles in brushes for domestic and industrial applications.



- **Source:** **Sri Lanka is the largest exporter of coir fibre followed by Thailand and India.** Despite the spread of coir industry in some of the major coconut producing countries, not more than 10% of the global output of husk is utilized for coir fibre extraction.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/22/what-are-geotextiles/>

187. What do you mean by Quantum entanglement?

- It is a method of solving a problem that no classical computer can feasibly solve
- It refers to finite entity to become infinite with in space-time
- It means, disturbances in the curvature of spacetime, generated by accelerated masses
- None of the above

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **What is Quantum entanglement?**
 - It is a quantum mechanical phenomenon in which the quantum states of two or more objects have to be described with reference to each other, even though the individual objects may be spatially separated.
 - It is the physical phenomenon that occurs when a pair or group of particles is generated, interact, in a way such that the quantum state of each particle of the pair or group cannot be described independently of the state of the others.
- **Significance:**
 - Quantum entanglement is one of the peculiarities of quantum mechanics, which makes phenomena such as quantum teleportation and super-dense coding possible.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/22/what-is-quantum-entanglement/>

188. Consider the following statements:

- Ecologically Fragile Areas are areas within 10 kms around Protected Areas, National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.
- Eco-Sensitive Zones are notified by MoEFCC, Government of India under Wild Life Protection Act, 1972.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

- 1 Only
- 2 Only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 and 2

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Eco-Sensitive Zones or Ecologically Fragile Areas** are areas **within 10 kms around Protected Areas, National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.**



- ESAs are notified by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (**MoEFCC**) under **Environment Protection Act 1986**.
- The basic aim is to regulate certain activities around National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries so as to minimise the negative impacts of such activities on the fragile ecosystem encompassing the protected areas.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/22/preservation-of-eastern-western-ghats-2/>

189. Consider the following statements:

1. The Western Ghats run from the northern Odisha through Andhra Pradesh to Tamil Nadu in the south passing some parts of Karnataka.
2. Eastern Ghats are older than the Himalayas.

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: (a)

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

- Stat1: The Eastern Ghats run from the northern Odisha through Andhra Pradesh to Tamil Nadu in the south passing some parts of Karnataka.
- Stat2: **The Eastern Ghats are older than the Western Ghats**, and have a complex geologic history related to the assembly and breakup of the ancient supercontinent of Rodinia and the assembly of the Gondwana supercontinent.
- According to UNESCO, the **Western Ghats are older than the Himalayas**. They influence Indian monsoon weather patterns by intercepting the rain-laden monsoon winds that sweep in from the south-west during late summer.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/22/preservation-of-eastern-western-ghats-2/>

190. Consider the following statements about Textiles Committee:

1. It is a statutory body established in 1863.
2. It is under the administrative control of the Ministry of Textiles.

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: **Textiles Committee:**

- It is a **statutory body** established in **1963**.



- It is under the administrative control of the **Ministry of Textiles**, Government of India.
- It has been formed to ensure the quality of textiles and textile machinery both for internal consumption and export purpose.
- Important functions: establishing laboratories for the testing of textiles and textile machinery and providing for their inspection and examination.

Refer: facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/22/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-22-may-2020/>

RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 23th -May-2020

191. Consider the following statements

1. UMANG app will take into consideration various correspondences to PM's office by the common people.
2. It was launched in 2017 to bring all government services on a single mobile app.

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:

- **UMANG is a Government of India all-in-one single, unified, secure, multi-channel, multi-platform, multi-lingual, multi-service mobile app, powered by a robust back-end platform providing access to high impact services of various organization (Central and State).**
- Launched in 2017 to bring all government services on a single mobile app, with a larger goal to make the government services accessible on the mobile phone of our citizens.
- About 660 services from 127 department & 25 states, including utility payments are live and more are in pipeline.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/23/unified-mobile-application-for-new-age-governance-umang-app/>

192. Consider the following statements:

1. Hong Kong is an autonomous region of China.



2. Macau was formerly a colony of the British Empire.
3. 'One Country Two Systems' approach was proposed by Deng Xiaoping with an aim to unify China and Taiwan.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Stat1: **Hong Kong is a Special Administrative Region (SAR) of China.** It has observed a "one country, two systems" policy since Britain returned sovereignty to China on July 1, 1997, which has allowed it certain freedoms the rest of China does not have.
 - **China has 5 autonomous regions:** Guangxi, Inner Mongolia, Ningxia, Tibet (Xizang) and Xinjiang.
- Stat2: **Macau was formerly a colony of the Portuguese Empire,** after Ming China leased the territory as a trading post in 1557. Portugal paid an annual rent and administered the territory under Chinese sovereignty until 1887, when it gained perpetual colonial rights in the Sino-Portuguese Treaty of Peking. **The colony remained under Portuguese rule until 1999, when it was transferred to China.**
- Stat3: As per the **One Country Two Systems approach policy,** the Hong Kong and Macau Special Administrative Regions, both former colonies, can have different economic and political systems from that of mainland China, while being part of the People's Republic of China. It was proposed by **Deng Xiaoping** with an aim to unify China and Taiwan.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/23/china-seeks-indias-support-for-its-new-law/>

193. Consider the following statements:

1. India became a party to the WHO Constitution on 12 January 1945.
2. Currently, the Executive Board chairmen of WHO is Indian.
3. The Board chairman's post is held by rotation for one year by each of the WHO's six regional groups.

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:

- Stat1: **India** became a **party to the WHO Constitution** on 12 January **1948**.



- Stat2: **Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan is set to take charge as chairman of the WHO Executive Board** at its 147th session. Vardhan would succeed Dr Hiroki Nakatani of Japan, currently the Chairman of the 34-member WHO Executive Board.
- Stat3: The executive Board is composed of 34 members technically qualified in the field of health. **The Board chairman's post is held by rotation for one year by each of the WHO's six regional groups:** African Region, Region of the Americas, South-East Asia Region, European Region, Eastern Mediterranean Region, and Western Pacific Region.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/23/who-executive-board/>

194. 'Treaty on Open Skies' is in news sometimes, is associated with:

- (a) Nuclear disarmament
- (b) Permission for flying of civil aircrafts
- (c) Unarmed aerial surveillance flights
- (d) Both (b) and (c)

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **Treaty on Open Skies:**

- The treaty allows 34 countries to conduct **unarmed surveillance flights** over one another's territories — including the US and Russia. It was signed in 1992 and went into effect in 2002.
- **This treaty is not related to civil-aviation open skies agreements.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/23/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-23-may-2020/>

195. Consider the following statements:

1. Under the Honey Mission, National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) provides training and bee boxes to beekeepers.
2. National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) is a statutory corporation set up under an Act of Indian Parliament on 2003.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Stat1: Between 2017-18 and 2019-20, KVIC has distributed 129,469 bee boxes across the country and trained 13,066 beekeepers.
 - **Under the Honey Mission, KVIC** provides training and 10 bee boxes with live colonies to beneficiaries including farmers, beekeepers and unemployed youth. The mission aims to generate livelihood for the beneficiaries and increase honey production in the country.



- KVIC also runs beekeeping training programmes and courses.
- Stat2: The **National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) is a statutory Corporation set up under an Act of Indian Parliament on 13 March 1963**. The objectives of NCDC are planning and promoting programmes for production, processing, marketing, storage, export and import of agricultural produce, foodstuffs, industrial goods, livestock and certain other notified commodities and services on cooperative principles and for matters concerned therewith or incidental thereto.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/23/beekeeping-in-india/>

196. 'Demo-2 mission' is a part of which of the following NASA's space mission?

- (a) Commercial Crew Program
- (b) New Frontiers program
- (c) New Millennium Program
- (d) High Energy Astronomy Observatory program

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- The **Demo-2 mission** is part of **NASA's Commercial Crew Program**, and will fly two astronauts on SpaceX's Crew Dragon spacecraft.
- This mission is essentially a flight test to certify if SpaceX's crew transportation system can be used to ferry crew to and from the space station regularly.
- This is the final flight test for the system and intends to validate its different components, including the spacecraft (Crew Dragon), the launch vehicle (Falcon 9), the launch pad (LC-39A) and the operations capabilities.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/23/what-is-the-spacex-demo-2-mission/>

197. Consider the following statements:

1. Tortoises and turtles are both reptiles
2. Tortoises live some or most of the time in the water, while turtles live on land
3. Tortoises are herbivores while turtles can be both herbivores and carnivores

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

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


Ans: (b)

Explanation:




- Stat3: Most land-based **tortoises are herbivores** while **turtles can be both herbivores and carnivores**. [This is a video of a turtle eating a pigeon](#).
- Stat2: **Turtles live some or most of the time in the water, while tortoises live on land**. Both turtles and tortoises lay eggs on the ground. The mother will dig a burrow and lay two to twelve eggs there. The future hatchlings will stay inside the egg for 90 to 120 days, incubating on their own. Once the incubation process is complete, they dig their way to the surface. Tortoise mothers provide protection to the hatchlings for about 80 days, after which they survive on their own, but turtle hatchlings are on their own from birth.
- Stat1: **Tortoises and turtles are both reptiles from the order of Testudines**, but in different classification families. The major difference between the two is that tortoises dwell on land, while turtles live in the water some or nearly all of the time.



KNOW THE DIFFERENCES 

Turtle v. Tortoise


328
Number of turtle & tortoise species recognized by the IUCN in 2010.



TURTLE

A turtle is a reptile from the Chelonian family. Turtles spend most of their life in the water.

VS



TORTOISE

A tortoise is a reptile from the Chelonian family. Tortoises spend most of their life on land areas.

Turtle	Tortoise
May be herbivorous, carnivorous, or omnivorous. Most are omnivorous or carnivorous.	Most are primarily herbivorous, but there are a few that are omnivorous.
Carapace is typically more laterally compressed and streamlined.	Carapace is usually more dome-shaped.
Most live in the water or are always found near it.	Most are primarily terrestrial.
Most have webbed feet.	Feet are short and sturdy with bent legs.

A few other tidbits...

Water Lover

Turtles rarely leave the ocean, except when the females come ashore to lay their eggs.

Fun in the sun!

Other turtles live in fresh water. They swim, but they also climb out onto banks, logs, or rocks to bask in the sun.


Land Dweller

Tortoises that live in hot, dry habitats use their strong legs to dig burrows.

Throw me some shade!

When it gets to be too hot in the sun, tortoises prefer to slip underground for shade.

For more info:
For details on Turtles: Journey of Survival, visit Adventure Aquarium online: www.AdventureAquarium.com



Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/23/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-23-may-2020/>

198. 'Khudol', sometimes mentioned in the news in reference to:

- (a) Possible vaccine for COVID19
- (b) NGO based in Manipur
- (c) Some crowdfunded initiative
- (d) Some wild invasive species

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Khudol is a crowdfunded initiative of Ya_All, an Imphal-based NGO that** had created India's first transgender football team. The initiative entails ensuring food, health and hygiene of the LGBTQI+



community, people living with HIV, daily-wage earners, children and adolescents.

- The United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth has listed Manipur's Khudol (gift) among the top 10 global initiatives for an inclusive fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/23/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-23-may-2020/>

199. Consider the following statements:

1. National parks enjoy a greater degree of protection than wildlife sanctuary.
2. Activities like grazing of livestock, collection of firewood are regulated in a wild life sanctuary while it is prohibited in a national park.
3. National parks can be created for specific species while wildlife sanctuary is not particularly focused on any specie.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- Wildlife sanctuaries can be created for specific species while National Park is not focused on any particular specie.
- A National Park is an area which is strictly reserved for the betterment of the wildlife and where human activities like forestry, grazing or cultivation are not permitted.
- A Wildlife Sanctuary is a protected area that is reserved for the conservation only of wildlife – animals and plant species. Human activities like harvesting or timber, collection of minor forest products and private ownership rights are allowed.



Distinction Between National Park, Sanctuary and Biosphere Reserve		
National Park	Sanctuary	Biosphere Reserve
(i) Habitat for particular wild animal species.	Generally species-oriented such as citrus, pitcher plant, etc.	Hitched to the whole ecosystem, i.e., totality of all forms of life, i.e., ecosystem-oriented.
(ii) In India, most common average size is 100-500 sq km (in about 40 per cent cases) and 500-1000 sq km (about 15 per cent cases). The general size range is 0.04 to 3162 sq km.	Size range is 0.61 to 7818 sq km. Most common (in about 40 per cent) is 100-500 sq km. In 25 per cent, the size varies between 500 and 1000 sq km.	Size range over 5670 sq km.
(iii) Boundaries fixed by legislation.	Boundaries are not sacrosanct.	Fixed by legislation.
(iv) Except the buffer zone, no biotic interference.	Limited biotic interference.	Except the buffer zone, no biotic interference.
(v) Tourism permissible.	Permissible.	Normally not permissible.
(vi) Research and scientific management lacking.	Lacking.	Managed.
(vii) So far no attention to gene pools and conservation.	So far no such attention.	Attention given.

200. Consider the below statements with regard to River Chenab:

1. Chenab is the largest tributary of the Indus.
2. It is formed by two streams, the Chandra and the Bhaga .
3. It runs parallel to the Pir Panjal range.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The **Chenab of Jammu and Kashmir State** is known as the **Chandrabhaga** in **Himachal Pradesh** because it is formed by two streams, the Chandra and the Bhaga which join at Tandi near Khylong .
- Chandrabhaga flows north-westwards and runs parallel to the Pir Panjal Range for some distance.
- **Near Kishtwar**, it cuts a deep gorge in the **Pir Panjal Range** and turns southwards and flows in this direction for a short distance. Further down, it turns to the west and enters the plain area near Akhnur. The river flows for 1180 km and drains 26,755 sq. km area in India.

Refer: <https://www.britannica.com/place/Chenab-River>



RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 25th -May-2020

201. As per the new domicile rules in J&K, the power to issue domicile certificates has been vested with:

- (a) Governor
- (b) Any Gazetted Officer
- (c) Panchayat Secretary
- (d) Revenue Officer

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **What did the 2010 Act say?**
 - The 2010 Act pertained to employment in the Civil Services comprising “district, divisional and State” cadre posts. Earlier, only permanent residents of J&K were eligible to apply for gazetted and non-gazetted posts.
- **The changes:**
 - The domicile rules as defined under the amended order will determine recruitment to all government posts in J&K from now on.
 - **The power to issue domicile certificates has been vested in the tehsildar (revenue officer).**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/25/domicile-rules-for-jk/>

202. Consider the following statements:

1. Line of Control (LoC) is a demarcation line that separates Indian-controlled territory from Chinese-controlled territory.
2. McMahon Line is the demarcation line between the Tibetan region of China and the Northern Himalayan region 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:

- The term **Line of Control (LoC)** refers to the military control line between the Indian and Pakistani controlled parts of the former princely state of Jammu and Kashmir—a line which does not constitute a legally recognized international boundary, but serves as the de facto border. Originally known as the Cease-fire Line, it was redesignated as the "Line of Control" following the Simla Agreement, which was signed on 3 July 1972. The part of the former princely state that is under Indian control is divided into the union territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, while the Pakistani-controlled part is divided into Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan. The northernmost point of the Line of Control

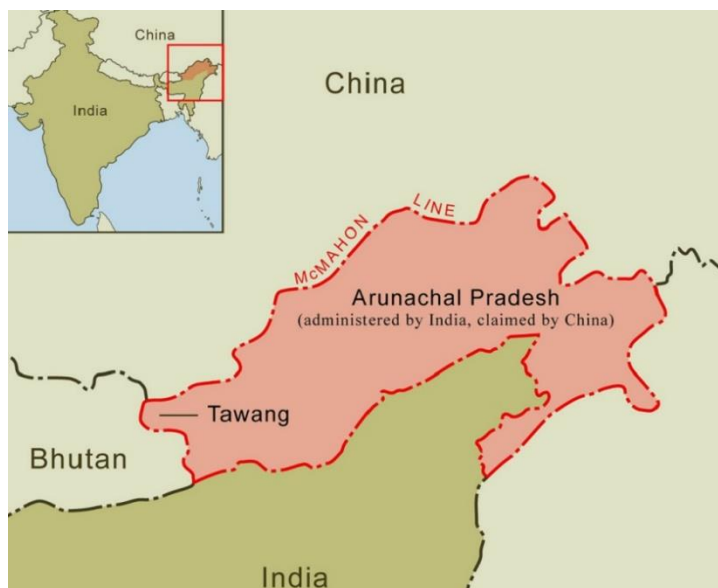


is known as NJ9842. The India–Pakistan border continues from the southernmost point on the LoC.

- The **Line of Actual Control (LAC)** is a demarcation line that separates Indian-controlled territory from Chinese-controlled territory in the former princely state of Jammu and Kashmir, formed after the 1962 war.



- The **McMahon Line** is the demarcation line between the Tibetan region of China and the **North-east region of India** proposed by British colonial administrator Henry McMahon at the 1914 Simla Convention signed between British and Tibetan representatives. It is currently the effective boundary between China and India, although its legal status is disputed by the Chinese government.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/25/what-explains-the-india-china-border-flare-up/>

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

- | Valley/Pass | State |
|----------------------|------------------|
| 1. Byans valley | Himachal Pradesh |
| 2. Valley of Flowers | Uttarakhand |
| 3. Rupin Pass | Sikkim |

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Rupin Pass:** Rupin Pass is a high altitude pass across the Himalaya mountain range in state of **Uttarakhand**, India. One can witness the Garhwali culture as well as the Kinnauri culture in either side of the pass.
- **Lipulekh pass** links the **Byans valley of Uttarakhand**, India with the Tibet Autonomous Region of China, and forms the last territorial point in Indian territory.
- **Valley of Flowers:** <https://uttarakhandtourism.gov.in/destination/valley-of-flowers/>

Refer: <https://uttarakhandtourism.gov.in/destination/valley-of-flowers/>

204. "The U.S. report also claims that Russia has conducted nuclear weapons experiments that produced a nuclear yield and were inconsistent with 'zero yield' understanding underlying the CTBT, though it was uncertain about how many such experiments had been conducted."

With reference to above passage, what do you mean by 'Zero yield'?



- (a) It refers to amount of energy released when that particular nuclear weapon is detonated.
- (b) It means, time required for a quantity to reduce to half of its initial value.
- (c) The condition of being able to sustain a nuclear chain reaction.
- (d) None of the above

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- A comprehensive test ban has been defined as a **“zero yield” test ban that would prohibit supercritical hydro-nuclear tests but not sub-critical hydrodynamic nuclear tests.**
- Hydronuclear tests study nuclear materials under the conditions of explosive shock compression. Their yield ranges from negligible all the way up to a substantial fraction of full weapon.
- Subcritical (or cold) tests are types of tests involving nuclear materials and possibly high-explosives that purposely result in no yield.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/25/us-discussed-conducting-its-first-nuclear-test-in-decades/>

205. Consider the following statements:

1. The Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) intends to ban military nuclear explosions only.
 2. It was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1996.
- 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 **Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT)** is the Treaty banning all nuclear explosions – everywhere, by everyone. The Treaty was negotiated at the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva and **adopted by the United Nations General Assembly.** It opened for signature on 24 September 1996.
- The Treaty will enter into force after all 44 States listed in Annex 2 to the Treaty will ratify it. These States had nuclear facilities at the time the Treaty was negotiated and adopted.
- India, North Korea and Pakistan have not yet signed the Treaty.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/25/us-discussed-conducting-its-first-nuclear-test-in-decades/>

206. Arrange the following locations in the direction of West to East:

1. Kashgar
2. Gwadar



3. Mombasa

4. Ankara

Select the correct answer using the code below:

(a) 4-1-3-2

(b) 3-4-1-2

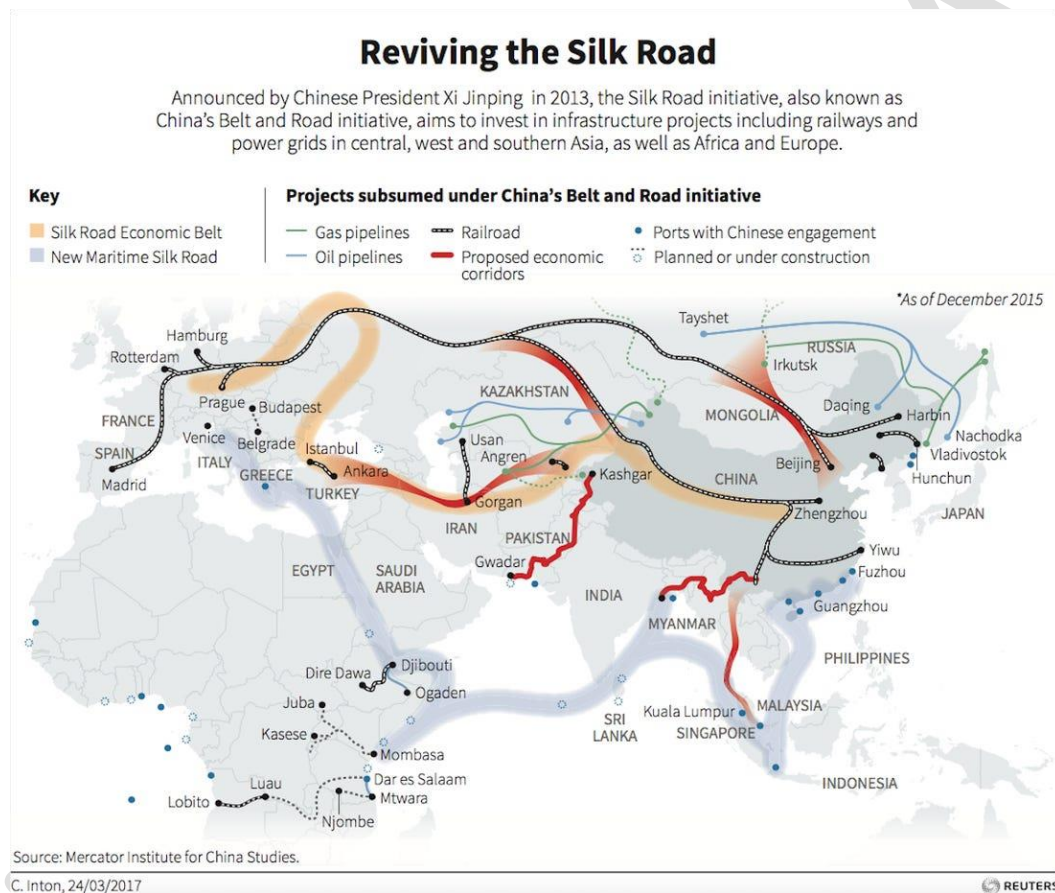
(c) 4-3-2-1

(d) 3-4-2-1

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The image below represents the expected route map of the One Belt One Road initiative.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/25/chinas-bri-2/>

207. Cicadas, sometimes mentioned in the news, which are

(a) Protozoa

(b) Fungus

(c) Insects

(d) Bugs

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Cicadas are insects** that spend most of their lives underground and emerge from the soil mainly to mate. Once out of the ground, their life span is fairly short, somewhere between two-four weeks.



- There are three species of 17-year cicadas and three species of 13-year cicadas.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/25/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-25-may-2020/>

208. 'Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD)' has been planned to construct on which of the following river?

- (a) Congo River
- (b) Blue Nile River
- (c) White Nile River
- (d) Zambezi River

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Formerly known as the **Millennium Dam**, it is under construction in the Benishangul-Gumuz region of Ethiopia, on the **Blue Nile River**, which is located about 40km east of Sudan.
- After completion, it'll be Africa's largest.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/25/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-25-may-2020/>

209. Recently, our scientists have discovered a new and distinct species of Rose apple family. In which of the following wild life sanctuary, has it been discovered?

- (a) Kanyakumari wildlife sanctuary
- (b) Malabar wildlife sanctuary
- (c) Chinnar wildlife sanctuary
- (d) Wayanad wildlife sanctuary

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Eugenia sphaerocarpa**: Belongs to the Myrtaceae or **Rose apple family**. Found mainly in Kakkayam area of the **Malabar wildlife sanctuary** in Kerala above 800m. The fruits of Eugenia species are known for their palatability.





Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/25/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-25-may-2020/>

210. Consider the following statements:

1. Katkari Tribe is one of the 75 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups.
2. They were the traditional militia of Maharashtra.

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:

- **Katkari is one of the 75 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups.**
- **Katkaris were historically forest dwellers.** They are located primarily in Raigad and in parts of Palghar, Ratnagiri and Thane districts as well and in some places of Gujarat.
- The British administration had classified them under the Criminal Tribes Act, 1871.
- The name Katkari is derived from a forest-based activity – the making and barter or sale of Katechu (kath) from the khair tree (Acacia Katechu). It is produced by boiling wood from the Khair tree and evaporating the resulting brew

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/25/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-25-may-2020/>

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 26th -May-2020

211. *He was a pupil of Abanindranath Tagore and known for his "Indian style" of painting. To mark the 1930 occasion of Mahatma Gandhi's arrest for protesting the British tax on salt, he created a black on white linocut print of Gandhi walking with a staff. It became the iconic image for the non-violence movement. He was*

- (a) Benode Behari Mukherjee
- (b) Ramkinkar Baij
- (c) Nandalal Bose
- (d) Beohar Rammanohar Sinha

Ans: (c)

Explanation:



- **Nandalal Bose** was born on 3 December 1882 in a middle-class Bengali family of Kharagpur, in **Munger district of Bihar state**.
- As a young artist, Nandalal Bose was **deeply influenced by the murals of the Ajanta Caves**. He had become part of an international circle of artists and writers seeking to revive classical Indian culture; a circle that already included Okakura Kakuzō, William Rothenstein, Yokoyama Taikan, Christiana Herringham, Laurence Binyon, Abanindranath Tagore, and the seminal London Modernist sculptors Eric Gill and Jacob Epstein.
- **To mark the 1930 occasion of Mahatma Gandhi's arrest for protesting the British tax on salt, Bose created a black on white linocut print of Gandhi walking with a staff. It became the iconic image for the non-violence movement.**
- His genius and original style were recognised by famous artists and art critics like Gaganendranath Tagore, Ananda Coomaraswamy and O. C. Ganguli. These lovers of art felt that objective criticism was necessary for the development of painting and founded the Indian Society of Oriental Art.
- He became principal of the Kala Bhavana (College of Arts) at Tagore's International University Santiniketan in 1922.
- **He was also famously asked by Jawaharlal Nehru to sketch the emblems for the Government of India's awards, including the Bharat Ratna and the Padma Shri.** Along with his disciple Rammanohar, Nandalal Bose took up the historic task of beautifying/decorating the original manuscript of the Constitution of India.
- He died on 16 April 1966 in Calcutta.
- Today, the National Gallery of Modern Art in Delhi holds 7000 of his works in its collection, including a 1930 black and white linocut of the Dandi March depicting Mahatma Gandhi, and a set of seven posters he later made at the request of Mahatma Gandhi for the 1938 Haripura Session of the Indian National Congress.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/26/ramkinkar-baij/>

212. Consider the following statements about Purandara Dasa :

1. He was a great devotee of Lord Narayana.
2. He fought the evils of casteism through his songs.
3. He was a contemporary of Tyagaraja.

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: (a)

Explanation:

- **Purandara Dasa (1484–1564)** was a Haridasa, great devotee of Lord Krishna and a saint.



- Purandara Dasa's songs express his love for Lord Narayana, especially Sri Krishna. He sings of various aspects of Sri Krishna's life. In many of these songs, he also satirizes all the various pretensions and vices prevailing in the society.
- He was a **disciple of the celebrated Madhwa philosopher-saint Vyasatirtha**, and a **contemporary of yet another great Haridasa, Kanakadasa**.
- Purandaradasa was the pioneer who blended the rich musical streams, namely the Dravidian and Aryan music, into a single stream known as Carnatic music.
- Prior to his initiation to Haridasa tradition, Purandara Dasa was a rich merchant and was called as Srinivasa Nayaka.
- Stat2: **Purandara Dasa fought the evils of casteism through his songs**. In his song aavakulavaadarenu aavanadarenu aatma bhavavariyada mele he wonders what is the use if one does not understand the spirit of humanism whatever caste or status one might be accredited to.
- Stat3: **Tyagaraja (1767-1847)** was a renowned composer of Carnatic music, a form of Indian classical music. He was prolific and highly influential in the development of India's classical music tradition. **Tyagaraja and his contemporaries, Shyama Shastri and Muthuswami Dikshitar**, were regarded as the Trinity of Carnatic music. Tyagaraja composed thousands of devotional compositions, most in Telugu and in praise of **Lord Rama**, many of which remain popular today.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/26/purandara-dasa/>

213. In India, the 'Bharat stage emission standards(BSES)' and the timeline for implementation are set by:

- (a) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
- (b) Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises
- (c) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- (d) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Bharat stage emission standards (BSES) are emission standards instituted by the Government of India to regulate the output of air pollutants from compression ignition engines and Spark-ignition engines equipment, including motor vehicles. **The standards and the timeline for implementation** are set by the **Central Pollution Control Board** under the **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change**.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/26/govt-notifies-bs-vi-emission-norms-for-quadracycles/>



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

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has given the following criteria for Heat Waves:**
 - Heat wave is considered if maximum temperature of a station reaches at least 40°C or more for Plains, 37°C or more for coastal stations and at least 30°C or more for Hilly regions.
- When the normal maximum temperature of a station is less than or equal to 40°C, Heat Wave Departure from normal is 5°C to 6°C and Severe Heat Wave Departure from normal is 7°C or more.
- When the normal maximum temperature of a station is more than 40°C, Heat Wave Departure from normal is 4°C to 5°C and Severe Heat Wave Departure from normal is 6°C or more.
- When the actual maximum temperature remains 45°C or more irrespective of normal maximum temperature, heat waves should be declared.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/26/what-are-heatwaves/>

215. Which of the following nations share borders with Somalia?

- 1. Kenya
- 2. Djibouti
- 3. Eritrea
- 4. Ethiopia

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Somalia shares a border with three countries: Kenya, Djibouti, and Ethiopia.** The country also has a border the Gulf of Aden which is located to the northern region and the Indian Ocean and Guardafui channel to the east, which separates the country from Socotra.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/26/no-answers-yet-for-somalia/>

216. 'ANITA', sometimes mentioned in the news, it is a/an/the:

- Space robot
- Some scientific balloon flying over Antarctica
- Radio telescope
- Some instrument used to detect gravitational waves

Ans: (c)

Explanation: What is ANITA?

- **Designed by NASA, the ANITA instrument is a radio telescope** which is used to detect ultra-high energy cosmic-ray neutrinos from a scientific balloon flying over Antarctica.
- **ANITA is the first NASA observatory for neutrinos of any kind.**
- **It involves an array of radio antennas** attached to a helium balloon which flies over the Antarctic ice sheet at 37,000 meters.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/26/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-26-may-2020/>

217. Which of the following are the special properties of neutrino?

- Massless
- Electrically neutral
- Strong interaction

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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



Ans: (a)

Explanation: **Neutrinos are elementary that have the following properties:**

- Neutrinos are electrically neutral and interact only via the weak interaction.
- Neutrinos exist in (at least) three different so-called flavors.
- Neutrinos are almost massless, i.e., they have very small masses compared to the other fermions. Since neutrinos are massive and mixed, neutrino oscillations occur among the different flavors.
- Neutrinos are very elusive, i.e., they have very tiny cross-sections.
- Neutrinos are the most frequent particles in the Universe.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/26/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-26-may-2020/>

218. Open stubble burning can emits which of the following toxic pollutants in the atmosphere?

1. Methane (CH₄)
2. Carbon Monoxide (CO)
3. Volatile organic compound (VOC)

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:

- Open stubble burning emits large amounts of toxic pollutants in the atmosphere which contain harmful gases like **methane (CH₄)**, **Carbon Monoxide (CO)**, **Volatile organic compound (VOC)** and carcinogenic polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. They may eventually cause smog.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/26/stubble-burning-5/>

219. '*Puntius sanctus*' is a freshwater fish of the family Cyprinidae, has been recently discovered in:

- (a) Tamil Nadu
- (b) Karnataka
- (c) Andhra Pradesh
- (d) Odisha

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- It is a new species of small **freshwater fish of the family Cyprinidae**.
- It was recently **discovered in Velankanni in Tamil Nadu**.



- It grows to a length of 7 cm. Its physical characteristics included a protractible mouth, a pair of maxillary barbels (a sensory organ near the snout), 24-25 lateral line scales and 10 pre-dorsal scales.
- The Puntius species are known locally as 'Paral' in Kerala and 'Kende' in Tamil Nadu. They are purely freshwater fishes.

Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/26/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-26-may-2020/>

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

- | <i>Palces in News</i> | <i>Country</i> |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| 1. Jubaland | Somalia |
| 2. Mogadishu | Kenya |
| 3. Mombasa | Ethiopia |

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Jubaland is an autonomous region in southern Somalia.



Refer: facts for prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/26/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-26-may-2020/>

**RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 27th -May-2020**

221. With reference to Constitution of India, which of the following subjects does 'Concurrent List' include?

1. Education
2. Labour
3. Relief for the disabled and unemployable
4. Markets and fairs
5. Electricity

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The concept of '**Concurrent List**' in the Indian Constitution has been **borrowed from the Constitution of Australia**
- Central Government and State Government both can make laws on the subjects mentioned under the Concurrent List
- **42nd amendment Act 1976** shifted below mentioned five subjects from State list to Concurrent List:
 - **Education**
 - Forests
 - Protection of wild animals and birds
 - Weights and measures and
 - Administration of justice, constitution and organisation of all courts except the Supreme Court and the high courts
- **Labour and Electricity** falls in **the Concurrent list**.
- **Markets and fairs and Relief for the disabled and unemployable** falls in State list

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/27/ilo-urges-pm-not-to-dilute-labour-laws/>

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

- | <i>Drugs/vaccines</i> | <i>used for treating</i> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Hydroxychloroquine | Malaria |
| 2. Dolutegravir | HIV/AIDS |
| 3. Albendazole | Filariasis |
| 4. Colistin | Pneumonia |

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (d)



Explanation:

- The World Health Organisation (WHO) has recommended the use of the **HIV drug dolutegravir (DTG)** as the preferred first-line and second-line treatment for all populations, including pregnant women and those of childbearing potential.
- The **Global Programme to Eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis** recommends mass treatment of **albendazole** co-administered with the microfilaricidal (antifilarial) drugs diethylcarbamazine (DEC) or ivermectin; and recommends albendazole alone in areas where loiasis is endemic.
- **Colistin**, also known as **polymyxin E**, is an antibiotic used as a last-resort for multidrug-resistant Gram negative infections including **pneumonia**.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/27/no-who-bar-on-india-testing-hcq-as-preventive/>

223. North Korea is located between which of the following seas?

- Yellow Sea and Sea of Japan
- Korea Bay and Sea of Japan
- Korea Bay and Yellow Sea
- Yellow Sea and East China Sea

Ans: (b)

Explanation:



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/27/both-koreas-violated-armistice-agreement/>



224. Consider the following statements:

1. Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) is chaired by the Union Finance Secretary.
2. The idea to create FSDC was first mooted by the Raghuram Rajan Committee in 2008.

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: (a)

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

- **Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC)** is an apex-level body constituted by the government of India. The idea to create such a super regulatory body was first mooted by the **Raghuram Rajan Committee in 2008**.
- **The Council is chaired by the Union Finance Minister** and its members are Governor, Reserve Bank of India; Finance Secretary and/or Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs; Secretary, Department of Financial Services; Chief Economic Adviser, Ministry of Finance; Chairman, Securities and Exchange Board of India etc.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/27/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-27-may-2020/>

225. The 'Char Dham' is a set of four pilgrimage sites in India. It comprises:

1. Badrinath
2. Rishikesh
3. Kedarnath
4. Gangotri
5. Yamunotri
6. Joshimath

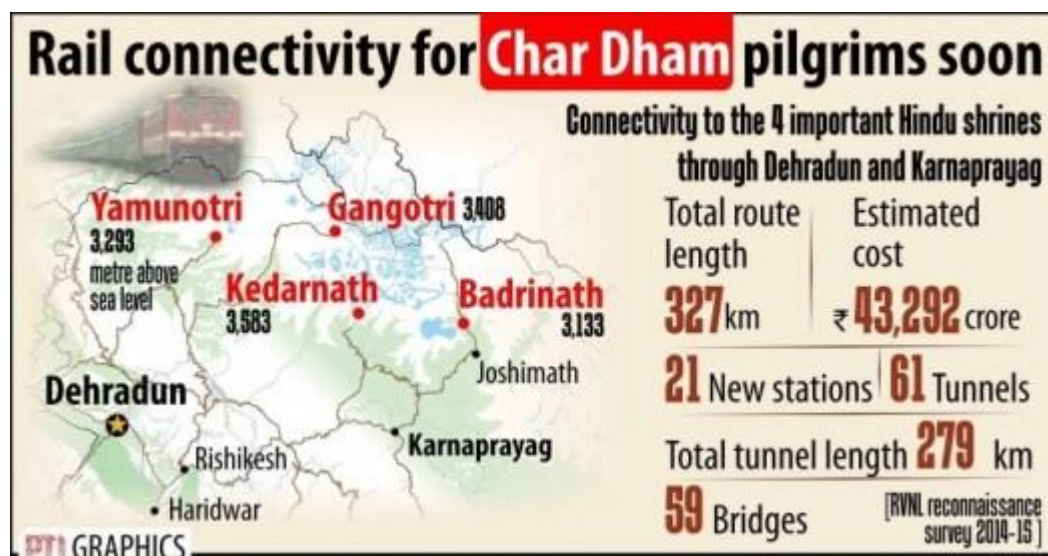
Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Chardham tunnel:** It is a 440-m tunnel constructed by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) below the densely populated Chamba town on the Rishikesh-Dharasu road National Highway in Uttarakhand.
- The tunnel is part of the efforts to boost the annual **Chardham yatra to connect Gangotri, Kedarnath, Yamunotri and Badrinath**.



Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/27/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-27-may-2020/>

226. With reference to 'Bug bounty programme', consider the following statements:

1. This program only opens to Indians.
 2. The programme has been organised by CERT-in team.
- 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 government has launched the bug bounty programme that will be hosted by the **MyGov team**.
- The programme will enable security researchers to avail rewards for finding security vulnerabilities within the **aarogya setu app**.
- The programme will be **open to Indian and foreign nationals**, but only Indians will be eligible for rewards offered under the scheme. Anyone who points out a security vulnerability in the app source code will be eligible for a reward of up to ₹3 lakh, and up to ₹1 lakh for pointing out a suggestion or improvement in the source code.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/27/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-27-may-2020/>

227. Consider the following statements:

1. India's first e-waste clinic set-up in Odisha.
2. The waste to energy plant uses a patented technology called Polycrack.

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 **Bhopal Municipal Corporation (BMC)** and the **Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)** have joined hands to set up the **country's first e-waste clinic** that would enable segregation, processing and disposal of waste from both household and commercial units. The clinic is being conceived in compliance with the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.
- The **country's first Government-owned Waste-to-Energy Plant** was recently commissioned at the **Mancheswar Carriage Repair Workshop in Odisha**.
- The plant, a patented technology called **Polycrack**, is first-of-its-kind in the Indian Railways and fourth in the country. It converts multiple feed stocks into hydrocarbon liquid fuels, gas, carbon and water.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/01/28/polycrack-technology/>

228. Arrange the following events in a chronological order:

1. *Assam Accord*
2. *Shillong Accord*
3. *Nagaland Peace Accord*
4. *Bodo Peace Accord*

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Assam Accord-1985
- Shillong Accord-1975
- Nagaland Peace Accord-2015
- Bodo Peace Accord-2020
- Bru Reang Agreement-2020

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/01/28/govt-signs-agreement-with-ndfb-absu-to-resolve-bodo-issue/>

229. Arrange the following South Asian rivers in the direction of West to East:

1. Ganga river
2. Irrawaddy river
3. Mekong river



4. Salween river

5. Yangtze river

Select the correct answer using the code below

(a) 1-2-3-4-5

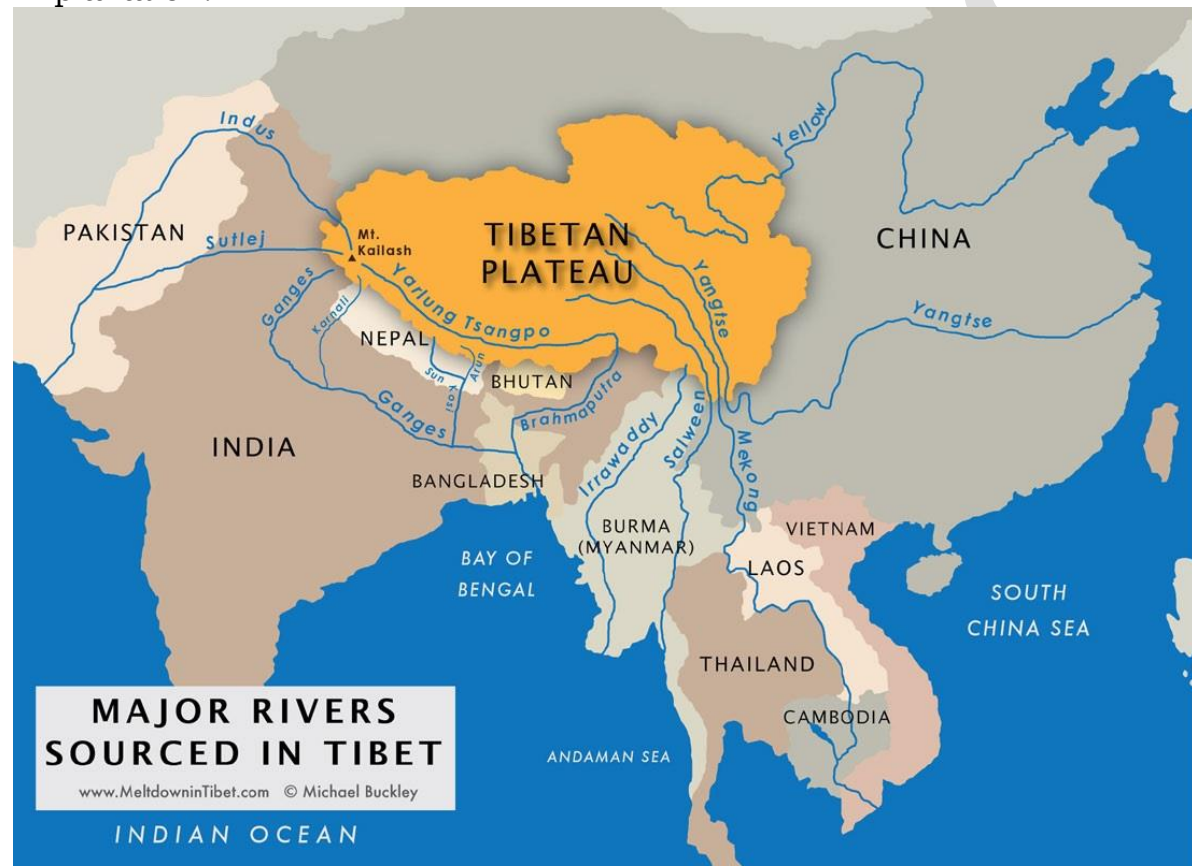
(b) 1-2-4-3-5

(c) 1-2-3-5-4

(d) 1-3-2-4-5

Ans: (b)

Explanation:



Source: meltdownintibet.com

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

230. Which one of the following is a measure of sustainable income level that can be secured without decreasing the stock of natural assets?

(a) Natural capital stock

(b) Environment value

(c) Green accounting

(d) Social discount rate

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Better macroeconomic and societal indicators are needed to reflect the contribution of biodiversity and ecosystem services to human well-being.



- One approach that is gaining momentum across the globe is **“green accounting”** whereby national accounts are adjusted to include the value of nature’s goods and services
- **Green accounting** allows the computation of income for a nation by taking into account the economic damage and depletion in natural resource base of a country.
- It is a measure of sustainable income level that can be secured without decreasing the stock of natural assets.

Refer: PYQ: IES Prelims-2020

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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 28th -May-2020

231. ‘Vinayak Savarkar’ was an Indian independence activist and politician, he was associated with which of the following organization’s/political parties:

1. Free India Society
2. Young India Society
3. Indian National Congress

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: (a)

Explanation: **Nationalism and social reforms:**

- In his teenage, Savarkar formed a youth organization. Known as **Mitra Mela**, this organization was put into place to bring in national and revolutionary ideas.
- He was **against foreign goods and propagated the idea of Swadeshi**. In 1905, he burnt all the foreign goods in a bonfire on Dussehra.
- He championed **atheism and rationality and also disapproved orthodox Hindu belief**. In fact, he even dismissed cow worship as superstitious.
- He also Worked on **abolishment of untouchability in Ratnagiri**. **Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar also compared his work to Lord Buddha**.



- Vinayak Savarkar was a **president of Hindu Mahasabha from 1937 to 1943**. When congress ministries offered resignation on 22nd oct 1939, Hindu mahaasabha under his leadership cooperated with Muslim league to form government in provinces like Sindh, Bengal and NWFP.
- In Pune, Savarkar founded **the “Abhinav Bharat Society”**.
- He was also involved in the Swadeshi movement and later joined **Tilak’s Swaraj Party**. His instigating patriotic speeches and activities incensed the British Government. As a result, the British Government withdrew his B.A. degree.
- He founded **the Free India Society**. The Society celebrated important dates on the Indian calendar including festivals, freedom movement landmarks, and was dedicated to furthering discussion about Indian freedom.
- He believed and advocated **the use of arms to free India from the British and created a network of Indians in England, equipped with weapons**.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/28/veer-savarkar-3/>

232. With reference to Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, the Central Government can provide for diversion of forest land for which of the following facilities:

1. Minor irrigation canals
2. Non-conventional source of energy
3. electric and telecommunication line

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Source:** Notwithstanding anything contained in the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, the Central Government shall provide for diversion of forest land for the following facilities managed by the Government which involve felling of trees not exceeding seventy-five trees per hectare, namely:-
 - Schools; (b) dispensary or hospital; (c) anganwadis; (d) fair price shops; (e) **electric and telecommunication lines**; (f) tanks and other minor water bodies; (g) drinking water supply and water pipelines; (h) water or rain water harvesting structures; (i) **minor irrigation canals**; (j) **non-**



conventional source of energy; (k) skill up-gradation or vocational training centers; (l) roads; and (m) community centers:

- Provided that such diversion of forest land shall be allowed only if, - (i) the forest land to be diverted for the purposes mentioned in this subsection is less than one hectare in each case; and (ii) the clearance of such developmental projects shall be subject to the condition that the same is recommended by the Gram Sabha.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/28/governor-modifies-law-on-forest-rights/>

233. With reference to Forest Rights Act, 2006, which of the following is the designated authority to initiate the process for determining the nature and extent of Individual Forest Rights (IFR) or Community Forest Rights (CFR)?

- (a) Governor
- (b) Tribal advisory council
- (c) Autonomous district council
- (d) Gram Sabha

Ans: (d)

Explanation: About Forest Rights Act (FRA):

- The act was passed in December 2006.
- It deals with the rights of forest-dwelling communities over land and other resources.
- The Act grants legal recognition to the rights of traditional forest dwelling communities, partially correcting the injustice caused by the forest laws.
- **Rights under the Act:**
 - Title rights –Ownership to land that is being farmed by tribals or forest dwellers subject to a maximum of 4 hectares; ownership is only for land that is actually being cultivated by the concerned family, meaning that no new lands are granted.
 - Use rights –to minor forest produce (also including ownership), to grazing areas, to pastoralist routes, etc.
 - Relief and development rights –to rehabilitation in case of illegal eviction or forced displacement; and to basic amenities, subject to restrictions for forest protection.
 - Forest management rights –to protect forests and wildlife.
- **Eligibility:**
 - Eligibility to get rights under the Act is confined to those who “primarily reside in forests” and who depend on forests and forest land for a livelihood.



- Further, either the claimant must be a member of the Scheduled Tribes scheduled in that area or must have been residing in the forest for 75 years.
- **Process of recognition of rights:**
 - **The Act provides that the gram sabha, or village assembly, will initially pass a resolution recommending whose rights to which resources should be recognised.**
 - This resolution is then screened and approved at the level of the sub-division (or taluka) and subsequently at the district level.
 - The screening committees consist of three government officials (Forest, Revenue and Tribal Welfare departments) and three elected members of the local body at that level. These committees also hear appeals.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/28/governor-modifies-law-on-forest-rights/>

234. With reference to special provisions for Fifth Schedule Areas, which of the following has/have the executive powers to give directions to the States as to the administration of the Scheduled Areas?

- (a) President
- (b) Governor
- (c) Union Government
- (d) All of the above

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **What is 5th schedule?**
 - The Fifth Schedule of the Constitution deals with the administration and control of Scheduled Areas as well as of Scheduled Tribes residing in any State other than the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.
- **Special Provisions for Fifth Schedule Areas:**
 - The Governor of each State having Scheduled Areas (SA) shall annually, or whenever so required by the President, make a report to the President regarding the administration of Scheduled Areas in that State.
 - The **Union Government shall have executive powers to give directions to the States as to the administration of the Scheduled Areas.**
 - Para 4 of the Fifth Schedule provides for establishment of a Tribes Advisory Council (TAC) in any State having Scheduled Areas.
 - **Composition:** Consisting of not more than twenty members of whom, three-fourths shall be the representatives of the



Scheduled Tribes in the Legislative Assembly of the State. If the number of representatives of the STs in the Legislative Assembly of the State is less than the number of seats in the TAC to be filled by such representatives, the remaining seats shall be filled by other members of those Tribes.

- **Functions:** The TAC shall advise on such matters pertaining to the welfare and the advancement of the STs in the State as may be referred to them by the Governor.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/28/governor-modifies-law-on-forest-rights/>

235. Recently, which of the following nations have activated the “working mechanism” at the diplomatic level?

- (a) India and Pakistan
- (b) USA and China
- (c) Iran and Saudi Arabia
- (d) India and China

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- India and China have activated the “**working mechanism**” at the diplomatic level.
- This has been activated alongside the military-to-military conversation taking place at the field level to “dis-engage” and “de-escalate” the situation.
- **About WMCC:**
 - The WMCC was established in 2012 as an institutional mechanism for consultation and coordination for management of India – China border areas, as well as to exchange views on strengthening communication and cooperation, including between the border security personnel of the two sides.
 - Composition: It is headed by joint secretary-level officials from both sides. They are entrusted to help the special representative for boundary talks, a position currently held by NSA Ajit Doval.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/28/working-mechanism-for-consultation-coordination-on-india-china-border-affairs-wmcc/>

236. Consider the following statements:

1. The first UN peacekeeping mission was established during the World War II.
2. Every peacekeeping mission is authorized by the United Nations General Assembly.



3. UN peacekeepers also known as 'White Helmets'.

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

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

Ans: (d)

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

- Stat: The **first UN peacekeeping mission was established on 29th May 1948**, when the Security Council authorized the deployment of a small number of UN military observers to the Middle East.
- Stat2: **Every peacekeeping mission is authorized by the Security Council.** The financial resources of UN Peacekeeping operations are the collective responsibility of UN Member States. According to UN Charter every Member State is legally obligated to pay their respective share for peacekeeping.
- Stat3: **UN peacekeepers (often referred to as Blue Berets or Blue Helmets because of their light blue berets or helmets)** can include soldiers, police officers, and civilian personnel. Peacekeeping forces are contributed by member states on a voluntary basis. Civilian staff of peace operations are international civil servants, recruited and deployed by the UN Secretariat.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/28/international-day-of-un-peacekeepers-2020/>

237. Consider the following statements:

1. New Development Bank was established in 2013, at the 5th BRICS Summit at Durban, South Africa.
 2. The bank is headquartered in Shanghai, China.
 3. Unlike the World Bank, NDB assigns votes based on capital share.
- Which of the given above statements is/are not correct?

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

Ans: (a)

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

About the New Development Bank:

It is a **multilateral development bank operated by the BRICS states (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa).**

- The New Development Bank was **agreed to by BRICS leaders at the 5th BRICS summit held in Durban, South Africa in 2013.**



- It was **established in 2014, at the 6th BRICS Summit at Fortaleza, Brazil.**
 - The bank is set up to foster greater financial and development cooperation among the five emerging markets.
 - In **the Fortaleza Declaration**, the leaders stressed that the NDB will strengthen cooperation among BRICS and will supplement the efforts of multilateral and regional financial institutions for global development.
- The bank will be **headquartered** in Shanghai, China.

Voting:

Unlike the World Bank, which assigns votes based on capital share, in the New Development Bank each participant country will be assigned one vote, and none of the countries will have veto power.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/28/new-development-bank-2/>

238. 'Montenegro' share borders with:

1. Albania
2. Serbia
3. Croatia
4. Bosnia
5. Macedonia

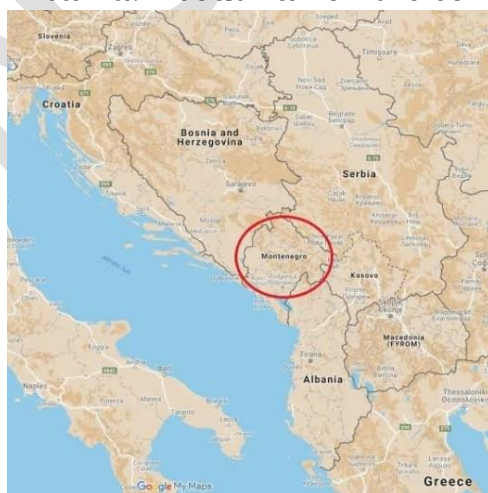
Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Montenegro**, which means "Black Mountain", borders **Croatia, Bosnia, Serbia**, Serbia's breakaway province of **Kosovo** and **Albania**. About half of it is covered in thick forest.





Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/28/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-28-may-2020/>

239. *Rapid Action Force (RAF)* and *Commando Battalion for Resolute Action (COBRA)* are specialised units of which of the following Indian police forces?

- (a) Central Reserve Police Force
- (b) Border Security Force
- (c) Central Industrial Security Force
- (d) National Security Guard

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **COBRA (Commando Battalion for Resolute Action)** is a specialised unit of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) of India proficient in guerrilla tactics and jungle warfare.
- Originally established to counter the Naxalite problem, CoBRA is deployed to address insurgent groups engaging in asymmetrical warfare.
- **The Rapid Action Force (RAF)** is a specialised wing of the Indian CRPF (Central Reserve Police Force) to deal with riot and crowd control situations.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/01/09/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-09-january-2020/>

240. *Lake Titicaca*, one of less than twenty ancient lakes on earth, is situated between:

- (a) Paraguay and Argentina
- (b) Uganda and Tanzania
- (c) Peru and Bolivia
- (d) Zambia and Zimbabwe

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Lake Titicaca** is the largest freshwater lake in South America and the highest of the world's large lakes. Titicaca is one of less than twenty ancient lakes on earth, and is thought to be there million years old.
- Lake Titicaca sits 3810 m above sea level and is situated between Peru to the west and Bolivia to the east.



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RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 29th -May-2020

241. Delimitation Commission's orders are enforced as per the date specified by:

- (a) Parliament of India
- (b) Council of Ministers
- (c) Prime Minister of India
- (d) President of India

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The commissions' orders are enforced as per the date specified by the **President of India**. Copies of these orders are laid before the Lok Sabha or the concerned Legislative Assembly. No modifications are permitted.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/29/lok-sabha-nominates-15-mps-as-associate-members-of-delimitation-commission/>



242. Once the Delimitation Act is in force, who sets up a Delimitation Commission?

- (a) Supreme Court judge
- (b) President of India
- (c) Prime Minister of India
- (d) Union Government

Ans: (d)

Explanation: How delimitation is carried out?

- Under Article 82, the **Parliament enacts a Delimitation Act** after every Census.
- Under Article 170, States also get divided into territorial constituencies as per Delimitation Act after every Census.
- Once the Act is in force, the **Union government sets up a Delimitation Commission.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/29/lok-sabha-nominates-15-mps-as-associate-members-of-delimitation-commission/>

243. Consider the following statements:

1. Excipients are substances of any drug that produces its effects.
2. Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient is the part of drug that helps to deliver the medication to our system.

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!!

- Every medicine is made up of two main ingredients — the chemically active APIs and chemically inactive, **excipients, which is a substance that delivers the effect of APIs to one's system.**
- API is a chemical compound that is the most important raw material to produce a finished medicine.
- In medicine, **API produces the intended effects to cure the disease.** For instance, Paracetamol is the API for Crocin and it is the API paracetamol that gives relief from body ache and fever.
- Fixed-dose combination drugs use multiple APIs, while single-dose drugs like Crocin use just one API.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/29/what-are-active-pharmaceutical-ingredients-api/>

244. Which of the following statements about African Swine Fever (ASF) is not correct?

- (a) The fever has no cure
- (b) ASF is a highly contagious
- (c) ASF is not a risk to human health



(d) All of the above (a), (b) and (c) statements are correct

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **About African Swine Fever (ASF):**

- ASF is a highly contagious and fatal animal disease that infects domestic and wild pigs, typically resulting in an acute form of hemorrhagic fever.
- It was first detected in Africa in the 1920s.
- The mortality is close to 100 per cent, and since the fever has no cure, the only way to stop it spreading is by culling the animals.
- ASF is not a threat to human beings since it only spreads from animals to other animals.
- According to the FAO, “its extremely high potential for transboundary spread has placed all the countries in the region in danger and has raised the spectre of ASF once more escaping from Africa. It is a disease of growing strategic importance for global food security and household income”.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/29/african-swine-fever-asf-3/>

245. 'Xinjiang' is an autonomous region within China, sharing borders with:

1. Mongolia
2. Russia
3. Kazakhstan
4. Kyrgyzstan
5. Uzbekistan
6. Afghanistan
7. India
8. Pakistan

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- (a) 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 8
- (b) 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8
- (c) 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 7 and 8
- (d) All of the above

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- Xinjiang is technically an autonomous region within China — its largest region, rich in minerals, and sharing borders with eight countries – **Mongolia, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan, India, Pakistan.**



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/29/u-s-house-passes-uyghur-rights-bill/>

246. Consider the following statements:

1. It is the Africa's largest lake by area
2. Also it is world's largest tropical lake
3. And the world's second largest fresh water lake by surface area after Lake Superior

Above statements are referring to which one of the following lake?

- (a) Lake Tanganyika
- (b) Lake Malawi
- (c) Lake Turkana
- (d) Lake Victoria

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Lake Victoria occupies a shallow depression in Africa.
- With a surface area of approximately 59,947 sq km, Lake Victoria is Africa's largest lake by area, the world's largest tropical lake, and the world's second largest fresh water lake by surface area after Lake Superior in North America. In terms of volume, Lake Victoria is the world's ninth largest continental lake.



Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/29/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-29-may-2020/>

247. Consider the following statements:

1. It has been listed as an "environmental weed" or "naturalised weed" by the Global Compendium of Weeds.
2. In India, being a native species, it occurs both naturally in wild as well as cultivated area.
3. Also it is considered sacred by the followers of Hinduism, Jainism and Buddhism.

Above given statements are referring to which one of the following tree?

- (a) Mango tree
- (b) Banyan tree
- (c) Ashwattha tree
- (d) Neem tree

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Ficus religiosa or sacred fig is a species of fig native to the Indian subcontinent** and Indochina that belongs to Moraceae, the fig or mulberry family. **It is also known as the bodhi tree, pippala tree, peepul tree, peepal tree or ashwattha tree (in India and Nepal).**
- The sacred fig is considered to have a religious significance in three major religions that originated on the Indian subcontinent, Hinduism, Buddhism and Jainism. Hindu and Jain ascetics consider the tree to be sacred and often meditate under them and this is the tree under which Gautama Buddha is believed to have attained enlightenment. Sacred fig is designated as the state tree of Indian state Odisha.
- **Ficus religiosa has been listed as an "environmental weed" or "naturalised weed" by the Global Compendium of Weeds**



(Randall, 2012). It has been assigned an invasiveness high risk score of 7 in a risk assessment prepared for the species' invasiveness in Hawaii by PIER. Such a high score predicts it will become a major pest in suitable climate zones.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/29/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-29-may-2020/>

248. Consider the following statements:

1. Farmer Connect Portal has been set up by APEDA, under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
2. The Companies Act was amended by incorporating Section-IX A in it to allow creation and registration of Farmers Producers Organisations under it.
3. APEDA is mandated with the responsibility of export promotion and development of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **A Farmer Connect Portal has been set up by APEDA** on its website for providing a platform for Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) and Farmer Producer Companies (FPCs) to interact with exporters.
- APEDA, under the **Ministry of Commerce and Industries**, promotes export of agricultural and processed food products from India.
- APEDA is mandated with the responsibility of export promotion and development of Alcoholic and Non-Alcoholic Beverages.
- **Farmers' Producer Organisation (FPO)**, also known as farmers' producer company (FPC), is an entity formed by primary producers.
 - The Companies Act was amended by incorporating Section-IX A in it to allow creation and registration of FPOs under it.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/01/08/agricultural-and-processed-food-products-export-development-authority-apeda/>

249. Consider the following statements:

1. State Disaster Response Fund has been constituted by each state under the provisions of Disaster Management act 2005.
2. SDRF constituted based on the recommendation of 13th Finance commission.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 Only
- (b) 2 Only



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

Ans: (c)

Explanation: **About State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF):**

- SDRF has been constituted by each state under the provisions of Disaster Management act 2005.
- It was constituted based on the recommendations of the **13th Finance Commission**.
- Funding: The government of India contributes 75% and 90% of the total yearly allocation of SDRF to general states and special category states respectively.
- Heads: The state executive committee headed by the Chief Secretary is authorized to decide on all matters relating to the financing of the relief expenditure from the SDRF.
- Disaster (s) covered under SDRF: Cyclone, drought, earthquake, fire, flood, tsunami, hailstorm, landslide, avalanche, cloudburst, pest attack, frost and cold waves.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2019/05/02/state-disaster-response-fund-sdrf/>

250. *Sepahijala Wildlife Sanctuary* is in which state

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **The Sepahijala wildlife sanctuary** carries the coveted '**Clouded Leopard National Park**' tag since **2011** thanks to its successful breeding of the near-extinct animal. This is the only place where the endangered clouded leopard is bred and conserved.
- Tripura has three other sanctuaries, Trishna in South Tripura, Rowa in North Tripura and Gomati wildlife sanctuary in Gomati district. Among these, Trishna was declared as a bison reserve.

RTM- REVISION THROUGH MCQS – 30th -May-2020

251. Consider the following statements:

1. The judges of the Supreme Court are appointed by the President.
2. Collegium system was born through "Second judge's case".
3. A person appointed as a judge of the Supreme Court, has to make and subscribe to an oath before the Chief Justice 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: (a)

Explanation:

- The Indian constitution provides for a provision of Supreme Court under Part V (The Union) and Chapter 6 (The Union Judiciary).
- Articles 124 to 147 in Part V of the Constitution deal with the organisation, independence, jurisdiction, powers and procedures of the Supreme Court.
- **The judges of the Supreme Court are appointed by the President.** The CJI is appointed by the President after consultation with such judges of the Supreme Court and high courts as he deems necessary.
- What is the Collegium system?
 - The Collegium of judges does not figure in the Constitution. It is the Supreme Court's invention.
 - Constitution says judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts are appointed by the President and speaks of a process of consultation.
 - Therefore, Collegium is a system under which judges are appointed by an institution comprising judges.
 - Collegium also recommends the transfer of Chief Justices and other judges.
- **How did this come into being?**
 - 'First Judges Case' (1981) ruled that the "consultation" with the CJI in the matter of appointments must be full and effective. However, the CJI's opinion should have primacy.
 - **Second Judges Case (1993) introduced the Collegium system**, holding that "consultation" really meant "concurrence". It added that it was not the CJI's individual opinion, but an institutional opinion formed in consultation with the two senior-most judges in the Supreme Court.
 - Third Judges Case (1998): **SC on President's reference expanded the Collegium to a five-member body**, comprising the CJI and four of his senior-most colleagues
- **Oath or Affirmation**
 - **A person appointed as a judge of the Supreme Court, before entering upon his office, has to make and subscribe to an oath or affirmation before the President**, or some other person appointed by him for this purpose. In his oath, a judge of the Supreme Court swears:
 - to bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India;
 - to uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India;
 - to duly and faithfully and to the best of his ability, knowledge and judgement to perform the duties of the Office without fear or favour, affection or ill-will; and
 - to uphold the Constitution and the laws.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/30/national-judicial-appointments-commission-njac/>

252. The State Election Commissioner can be removed from his/her office by the:

- (a) President
- (b) Governor
- (c) State legislature
- (d) None of the above

Ans: (d)

Explanation: **State Election Commissions (SECs):**

- The State Election Commissioner is **appointed by the Governor**.
- As per article 243(C3) the Governor, when so requested by the State Election Commission, make available to the State Election Commission such staff as may be necessary for the discharge of the functions conferred on the SEC by clause (1).
- Article 243K(2): It states that the tenure and appointment will be directed as per the law made by the state legislature. **However, State Election Commissioner shall not be removed from his/her office except in like manner and on the like grounds as a Judge of a High Court.**

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/30/hc-asks-a-p-govt-to-reinstate-ramesh-kumar/>

253. Consider the following statements:

1. Sedition was first used to prosecute Surendranath Banerjee in 1876.
2. In 1962, the Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of sedition in Kedar Nath Singh v State of Bihar.

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: British used Sedition law to convict and sentence freedom fighters. It was first used to prosecute **Bal Gangadhar Tilak in 1897**.
- Stat2: In 1962, the Supreme Court decided on the constitutionality of Section 124A in **Kedar Nath Singh v State of Bihar**.
 - It upheld the constitutionality of sedition, but limited its application to “acts involving intention or tendency to create disorder, or disturbance of law and order, or incitement to violence”.
 - It distinguished these from “very strong speech” or the use of “vigorous words” strongly critical of the government.



Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/30/what-is-sedition-law/>

254. Which of the following is/are the key objectives of 'National Digital Communications Policy 2018'?

1. Broadband for all
2. Creating ten million additional jobs in the Digital Communications sector
3. Propelling India to the Top 50 Nations in the ICT Development Index of ITU from 134 in 2017
4. Enhancing India's contribution to Global Value Chains
5. Ensuring Digital Sovereignty

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- The key objectives of the "National Digital Communications Policy 2018" are:
 - Broadband for all;
 - **Creating four million additional jobs in the Digital Communications sector;**
 - Enhancing the contribution of the Digital Communications sector to 8% of India's GDP from ~ 6% in 2017;
 - Propelling India to the Top 50 Nations in the ICT Development Index of ITU from 134 in 2017;
 - Enhancing India's contribution to Global Value Chains; and
 - Ensuring Digital Sovereignty.
- These objectives are to be achieved by 2022.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/30/telecom-regulator-moots-national-numbering-plan/>

255. Consider the following statements about Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI):

1. TRAI is the regulator of the telecommunications sector in India.
2. TRAI is administered through a Secretariat headed by a secretary.
3. In order to increase broadband penetration in India, TRAI has proposed WANI architecture.

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:



- It is a statutory body set up under section 3 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997.
- It is the regulator of the telecommunications sector in India.
- **TRAI is administered through a Secretariat headed by a secretary.** All proposals are processed by the secretary, who organises the agenda for Authority meetings (consulting with the Chairman), prepares the minutes and issues regulations in accordance to the meetings.
- **The secretary is assisted by advisors.** These include Mobile Network, Interconnection and Fixed Network, Broadband and Policy Analysis, Quality of Service, Broadcasting & Cable Services, Economic Regulation, Financial Analysis & IFA, Legal, Consumer Affairs & International Relation and Administration & Personnel.
- **Officers are selected from the Indian Telecommunications Service and the Indian Administrative Service.**
- In order to increase broadband penetration in India, **TRAI has proposed WANI (Wi-Fi Access Network Interface)** architecture. If implemented, it may lead to set up of Public Data Offices (PDOs) where Wi-Fi Internet would be available on demand. TRAI relates the same with PCOs which were used to do the voice calls and were very popular hotspots before the mobile phones or home landlines became the ultimate mode of communication.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/30/telecom-regulator-moots-national-numbering-plan/>

256. Recently, which one of the following nation has proposed to create ‘5G club’?

- China
- South Korea
- United Kingdom
- United States of America

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The **British government** has approached the US with the prospect of creating a **5G club of 10 democracies**, including India, amid growing security concerns related to Chinese telecom giant Huawei.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/30/u-k-moots-5g-club/>

257. Consider the following statements:

1. Revenue deficit is the excess of revenue expenditure over revenue receipts.
2. Effective revenue deficit is the difference between revenue deficit and grants for creation of capital assets.
3. Primary deficit is fiscal deficit plus interest payments.

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:

- Revenue deficit is the excess of revenue expenditure over revenue receipts. A revenue deficit occurs when actual revenue collected by government falls short of Budget estimates.
- Effective revenue deficit is the difference between revenue deficit and grants for creation of capital assets.
- **Primary deficit** is fiscal deficit **less interest payments**.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/30/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-30-may-2020/>

258. Consider the following statements:

1. The 'Index for Industrial Production' is computed and published by the Office of Economic Advisor.
2. The eight Core Industries in decreasing order of their weightage is: Electricity> Steel> Coal> Crude Oil.

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 Index of Industrial Production (IIP) is an index which shows the growth rates in different industry groups of the economy in a stipulated period of time. **The IIP index is computed and published by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) on a monthly basis.**
- Stat2: The eight Core Industries in decreasing order of their weightage: Refinery Products> **Electricity> Steel> Coal> Crude Oil>** Natural Gas> Cement> Fertilizers.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/30/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-30-may-2020/>

259. Recently, which of the following State government has announced the launch of the 'Rozgar Setu' scheme?

- (a) Odisha
- (b) Telangana
- (c) Uttara Pradesh
- (d) Madhya Pradesh

Ans: (d)

Explanation:



- **Madhya Pradesh** has announced the launch of the **'Rozgar Setu'** scheme to help secure employment for skilled workers who have returned.

Refer: Facts for Prelims: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/05/30/insights-daily-current-affairs-pib-summary-30-may-2020/>

260. Consider the following statements:

1. Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) maintains and compiles the no-fly list based on inputs given by airlines about the incidents.
2. MLAs and MPs are exempted from CAAs set of rules to put passengers on a No-Fly list.

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

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

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- The **Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)** maintains and compiles the no-fly list based on inputs given by airlines about the incidents.
- In March 2017, the then Shiv Sena MP Ravindra Gaikwad assaulted an Air India employee. Months later another incident came into light when MP Diwakar Reddy refused boarding at Visakhapatnam airport creating a ruckus for other passengers.
- The increasing incidents of violence with the crew members and airport staff-led DGCA to make a set of rules to put passengers on a No-Fly list. Notified on September 8, 2017, under the Civil Aviation Requirements, Section 3, Air Transport Series M Part VI, the rules focused on the handling of unruly passengers.
- In 2018, Mumbai man, who left a fake threat note inside flights' toilet, became the first to be put on the no-fly list in India.

Refer: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2020/01/31/indias-no-fly-list/>

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