



IAS PARLIAMENT
Information is a Blessing
A Shankar IAS Academy Initiative

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01-05-2019

1) Consider the following statements with respect to Neglected Diseases

1. Neglected diseases are mostly tropical infectious diseases.
2. Malaria and Tuberculosis are one among those neglected diseases.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

2) Consider the following statements with respect to Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY)

1. It provides health insurance cover of up to Rs. 50,000 per family per year.
2. There will be no cap on family size and age in the Mission.
3. It will cover medical and hospitalization expenses for almost all primary, secondary and tertiary care procedures.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a. 2 only
- b. 1 and 2 only
- c. 1, 2 and 3
- d. None

3) The reign of each Emperor is given a name which is used with the Western calendar to mark years. With the end of the reign of Akihito, the 'Heisei' era ended, and with the ascension of Naruhito to the Chrysanthemum Throne, the new 'Reiwa' era has begun.

From the options given below, find the country where the events described above is being held recently?

- a. Brunei
- b. China

- c. Japan
- d. Singapore

4) Consider the following statements with respect to Contempt of Court

1. The expression contempt of court has not been defined by the Indian Constitution.
2. Contempt of court can either be civil contempt or criminal contempt.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

5) Which among the following states in India does not have a Tiger Reserve?

- a. Andhra Pradesh
- b. Mizoram
- c. Sikkim
- d. All of the above

6) Consider the following statements with respect to Dubnium (Db)

1. Db is a synthetic element which is the most stable isotope known as of now.
2. The element has no uses currently outside basic research as only trace quantities have ever been produced.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

7) Ease of Living Index is released by which of the following organizations?

- a. World Bank
- b. World Economic Forum
- c. UNESCO
- d. Sustainable Development Solutions Network

8) Consider the following statements with respect to Zero shadow day (ZSD)

- 1. It occurs once a year.
- 2. It usually happens at places between tropic of cancer and tropic of Capricorn.
- 3. This Zero Shadow Day will be different for different places (different latitudes).

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

9) With reference to the Parliament of India, which of the following Parliamentary committees is engaging in maintaining discipline and decorum in Parliament?

- a. Rules Committee
- b. Committee of Privileges
- c. Ethics Committee
- d. General Purposes Committee

10) Oxybenzone and Octinoxate were sometimes seen in the news recently for which of the following reasons?

- a. Carbon capture chemicals
- b. Oil eating chemicals
- c. Anti-microbial resistance
- d. Coral reef damage

Answers

1. c

- Neglected diseases are **mostly tropical** infectious diseases, and the market size for drugs for such diseases is small due to their limited geographical incidence.

- To highlight the common problem of lack of innovation for drugs, diagnostics and vaccines for this basket of diseases, WHO started addressing these as neglected diseases from late 1980's.
- Some examples of neglected diseases are **malaria, tuberculosis, leishmaniasis (kala azar), dengue, leprosy, lymphatic filariasis and diarrhoeal diseases.**

2. a

- Under **PM-JAY**, Government provides health insurance cover of up to **Rs. 5,00,000 per family per year.**
- Approximately more than 50 crore beneficiaries (poor and vulnerable families) covered across the country.
- All families listed in the **SECC database** as per defined criteria will be covered.
- **No cap on family size and age of members.**
- **Priority to girl child, women and senior citizens.**
- It covers **secondary and tertiary care** hospitalization.

3. c

- **Japan's** new emperor, Naruhito, has formally ascended the Chrysanthemum Throne, replacing his father, Akihito, who had abdicated recently.
- Naruhito became the 126th Emperor of Japan.
- A new imperial era called Reiwa, which means order and harmony, has now begun.
- The emperor in Japan holds no political power but serves as a national symbol.

4. c

- The expression ‘contempt of court’ has **not been defined** by the Constitution.
- However, the expression has been **defined by the Contempt of Court Act of 1971.**

- Under this, contempt of court may be **civil or criminal**.
 - Civil contempt means wilful disobedience to any judgement, order, writ or other process of a court or wilful breach of an undertaking given to a court.
 - Criminal contempt means the publication of any matter or doing an act which
 1. scandalises or lowers the authority of a court; or
 2. prejudices or interferes with the due course of a judicial proceeding; or
 3. interferes or obstructs the administration of justice in any other manner.
5. c
- Nagarjunasagar-Srisailam Tiger Reserve – Andhra Pradesh
 - Dampa Tiger Reserve – Mizoram
6. c
- Dubnium (Db) is a synthetic element about which little is known.
 - Dubnium-268, with a half-life of about 30 hours, is the most stable isotope **known as of now**.
 - The element has no uses currently outside basic research as only trace quantities have ever been produced.
7. a
8. c
- Zero shadow day (ZSD) are the days when the sun will rise at true east and set at true west.
 - It occurs **twice** a year, happens two times in a day at a particular place and it usually happens at places between tropic of cancer and tropic of Capricorn.
 - During ZSD a sub-solar point happens when the sun is directly overhead at a particular latitude.
 - When the sun is at the zenith (the highest point in the sky) its rays will be hitting a particular point exactly perpendicular to the surface.
- This will make shadow of any object to be exactly under it, making it look like there are no shadows.
9. c
- Ethics committee enforces the code of conduct of members of Parliament.
 - It examines the cases of misconduct and recommends appropriate action.
 - Thus, it is engaged in **maintaining discipline and decorum in Parliament**.
 - It was constituted in Rajya Sabha in 1997 and in Lok Sabha in 2000.
10. d
- The chemicals **Oxybenzone and Octinoxate** have been linked to **coral damage** and other negative effects on aquatic life, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.
 - Recently, officials have found high levels of a chemical commonly used in sunscreen that is believed to harm coral reefs in bay waters off Hawaii's Big Island.

02-05-2019

1) Consider the following statements with respect to Asian Development Bank (ADB)

1. It assists its members and partners by providing loans, technical assistance, grants, and equity investments to promote social and economic development.
2. India is a founding member of Asian Development Bank.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

2) Consider the following statements with respect to Beluga Whale

1. It is the Antarctic and sub-Antarctic aquatic mammal.
2. It is also known as the white whale, as it is the only marine mammal of this colour.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

3) Consider the following statements with respect to *International Finance Corporation (IFC)*

1. It is the largest global development institution focused exclusively on the private sector in developing countries.
2. International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and International Finance Corporation (IFC) are collectively known as World Bank.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

4) 99942 Apophis sometimes seen in the news recently is a/an

- a. Exo planet
- b. Satellite
- c. Asteroid
- d. Rover

5) Inclusive Wealth Report is a biennial effort led by which of the following organizations?

- a. UN Environment
- b. OECD

- c. UN Development Programme
- d. World Economic Forum

6) Arrange the following from North to South

1. Javadi Hills
2. Nallamalai Hills
3. Shevaroy Hills
4. Palkonda Range

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a. 2-4-3-1
- b. 3-1-2-4
- c. 2-4-1-3
- d. 2-1-4-3

7) Operation Greens comes under which of the following ministries?

- a. NITI Aayog
- b. Ministry of Agriculture
- c. Ministry of Food & Public Distribution
- d. Ministry of Food Processing Industries

8) Varuna Mitra is the 24x7 weather forecast help desk launched by which of the following states?

- a. Odisha
- b. Andhra Pradesh
- c. Tamilnadu
- d. Karnataka

9) Consider the following statements

1. Independent candidates have been contesting in Lok Sabha elections since the first general election of 1951-52.
2. Law Commission in its 255th report recommended that independent candidates should be debarred from contesting elections to the Lok Sabha.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

10) Amchang Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which of the following states?

- a. Assam
- b. Chhattisgarh
- c. Madhya Pradesh
- d. Arunachal Pradesh

Answers

1. c
 - India is a founding member and the 4th largest shareholder of ADB.
2. b
 - Beluga Whale is the **Arctic and sub-Arctic aquatic** mammal.
 - It is also known as the white whale, as it is the only marine mammal of this colour.
 - It possesses a distinctive protuberance at the front of its head which houses an echolocation organ called the melon, which in this species is large and deformable.
 - Its sense of hearing is highly developed and its echolocation allows it to move about and find breathing holes under sheet ice.
 - Recently it is believed that Russia has been using the whales for military intelligence by mounting spying devices on the whale.
3. a
 - IFC is a **sister organization of the World Bank** and member of the World Bank Group.
 - It is the largest global development institution focused exclusively on the **private sector in developing countries**.
 - The Bank Group has set two goals for the world to achieve by 2030: end extreme poverty and promote shared prosperity in every country.
4. c
 - The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and the **International Development Association (IDA)** are collectively known as the World Bank.
 - World Bank provides financing and policy advice to low and middle-income countries.
5. a
 - On April 13, 2029, a near-Earth **asteroid**, called 99942 Apophis, will cruise by Earth, about 31,000 km above the surface.
 - Although the flyby is expected to be harmless, the international asteroid research community is excited, with scientists drawing up plans 10 years in advance on how they will observe it with optical and radar telescopes, and discussing what they hope to learn.
6. c
7. d
8. d
 - Launched in 2010, Varuna Mitra provides weather forecast at the gram panchayat level for the benefit of farmers and the public.
 - It provides forecast on rainfall, temperature, humidity, wind speed and its direction three days in advance.
 - Accuracy in the weather information provided by **Varuna Mitra**, the 24x7 help desk launched by the **Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre**, has helped farmers realise average net gain of Rs.5,106 per acre.
9. c
 - More and more independents have been contesting Lok Sabha elections **since the first general election of 1951-52**, but the number of winners has been decreasing.

- In its 255th report, the Law Commission of India sparked a debate when it recommended that **independent candidates be barred from contesting elections** as “they are either not serious or contest elections just to confuse the voters.”
- However, no final decision has been taken yet.

10. a

03-05-2019

1) Consider the following statements with respect to *National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Water Resources Development*

1. It was formulated by the Ministry of Water Resources and the Central Water Commission in 1980.
2. It comprises of two components: Himalayan Rivers Development and Peninsular Rivers Development.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

2) Consider the following statements with respect to *DigiLocker*

1. DigiLocker is a platform for issuance and verification of documents & certificates in a digital way.
2. Indian citizens who sign up for a DigiLocker account get a dedicated cloud storage space that is linked to their Aadhaar (UIDAI) number.
3. It comes under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

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

3) With reference to Vedanta Desikan, consider the following statements

1. Sri Vedanta Desikan is one of the most prominent preceptors in the Srivaishnava tradition.
2. He had authored many literary works in Sanskrit, Tamil and Prakrit.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

4) *SDG India Index* was recently released by which of the following agencies?

- a. NITI Aayog
- b. Ministry of Housing and Urban affairs
- c. Ministry of Drinking water and Sanitation
- d. Both B and C

5) Consider the following statements with respect to SCATFORM project sometimes seen in the news recently

1. It would help to improve forests in the targeted catchment areas, and to conserve the ecosystem.
2. It was launched by the Union Ministry for Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
3. It is being implemented with the assistance from World Bank.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

6) Manipravalam is a blended form of which of the following two languages?

- a. Tamil and Malayalam
- b. Telugu and Tamil
- c. Kannada and Tamil
- d. None of the above

7) Logistics Ease Across Different States (LEADS) Index was prepared by which of the following?

- a. NITI Aayog
- b. World Bank
- c. Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- d. Ministry of Shipping

8) Mihir Shah Committee is associated with which of the following?

- a. FDI Reforms
- b. Disaster Response
- c. Water Reforms
- d. Radioactive waste disposal

9) Which of the following tribal community are not inhabited in the state of Goa?

1. Bhotias
2. Dhodia
3. Kunbi
4. Bhil

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 1 and 4 only
- c. 2 and 3 only
- d. 3 and 4 only

10) Udanti Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which of the following states?

- a. Telangana

- b. Uttarakhand
- c. Assam
- d. Chhattisgarh

Answers

1. c

- The then Ministry of **Irrigation** (now Ministry of **Water Resources**) and **Central Water Commission** formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Water Resources Development in 1980.
- It envisages inter-basin transfer of water from surplus basins to deficit ones with a view to minimize the regional imbalances and optimally utilize the available water resources.
- National Perspective Plan comprises of two components viz. **Himalayan** Rivers Development and **Peninsular** Rivers Development.

2. d

3. c

- Sri Vedanta Desikan is one of the most prominent preceptors in the **Sri Vaishnava tradition** and one of the most effulgent luminaries to have graced this land.
- Sri Vedanta Desikan had authored brilliant poems, prose, drama, epics, commentaries, scientific texts and philosophical treatises in Sanskrit, Tamil, Prakrit and Manipravalam.

4. a

- The SDG India index took into account 13 out of 17 goals specified by United Nation's as SDGs and left out four goals (12, 13, 14 and 17) because of lack of data at the state level.
- Kerala, Himachal Pradesh and Tamil Nadu have emerged as top performing states in **NITI Aayog's** SDG India index 2018.
- Assam, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh are the worst performing states.

5. a

- Tripura state has recently launched a 1,000-crore **Sustainable Catchment Forest Management (SCATFORM) project** for

local communities living in and around forest areas in the state.

- The project would help improve forests in the targeted catchment areas, and the ecosystem would be conserved.
- It would also create livelihood of the people living in and around the forest areas.
- The **Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)** would bear 80 per cent of the cost and the rest would be funded by the state and central governments.

6. d

- Manipravalam – literally, “diamonds and corals” referring to the two languages, **Sanskrit and the regional language**.
- A fourteenth-century text, the **Lilatilakam**, dealing with grammar and poetics, was composed in Manipravalam.

7. c

8. c

- The **Mihir Shah Committee** report titled ‘A 21st Century Institutional Architecture for India’s **Water Reforms**’ observes that many of India’s peninsular rivers are facing a serious crisis of post-monsoon flows.
- The single most important factor explaining the drying up of India’s peninsular rivers is the over-extraction of groundwater.

9. b

Tribes in Goa

1. Dhodia
2. Dubla (Halpati)
3. Naikda (Talavia)
4. Siddi (Nayaka)
5. Varli
6. Kunbi
7. Gawda
8. Velip

10. d

04-05-2019

1) Consider the following statements with respect to *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction*

1. It outlines seven global targets to be achieved between 2015 and 2030.
2. It is a voluntary, non-binding agreement.
3. It is the predecessor agreement to the Hyogo Framework for Action (2005–2015).

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

2) Consider the following statements with respect to *Microplastics*

1. They are pieces of plastic debris that measure less than 10 mm long.
2. They may also travel by air, spreading their ill effects.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

3) C-60 wing which was sometimes seen in the news recently was specifically set up in 1990 to tackle?

- a. Naxal Violence
- b. Tropical Cyclones
- c. Economic Offences
- d. Disaster Response

4) Consider the following statements with respect to *Sri Vaishnava philosophy*

1. It was initially propounded by Shri Vedanta Desikan.
2. It strictly follows Varna system and restricted the followers based on caste distinctions.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

5) *Global Risk Report* is published by which of the following organizations?

- a. UN office for disaster risk reduction
- b. Global Footprint Network
- c. World Meteorological Organisation
- d. World Economic Forum

6) Match List-I with List-II

List-I **List-II**

(Cloud) **(Characteristic)**

- | | |
|------------|-----------------------------|
| A. Cirrus | – 1. Rain-giving |
| B. Stratus | – 2. Feathery appearance |
| C. Nimbus | – 3. Vertically growing |
| D. Cumulus | – 4. Horizontally spreading |

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a. A-3; B-1; C-4; D-2
- b. A-2; B-1; C-4; D-3
- c. A-2; B-4; C-1; D-3
- d. A-3; B-4; C-1; D-2

7) Sound waves **cannot** travel through a

- a. Copper wire placed in air
- b. Silver slab placed in air

- c. Glass prism placed in water
- d. Wooden hollow pipe placed in vacuum

8) Consider the following statements

1. The first coins to bear the names and images of rulers were issued by the Kushanas.
2. The first gold coins were issued by the Indo-Greeks.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

9) Consider the following statements with respect to *Pneumonia*

1. Pneumonia is solely caused by bacteria.
2. Vaccines are not available to prevent pneumonia.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

10) Consider the following pairs

1. Sittanavasal Cave – Andhra Pradesh
2. Kanheri Caves – Odisha
3. Manmod Caves – Maharashtra
4. Undavalli Caves – Tamilnadu

Which of the pair(s) given above is/are correctly matched?

- a. 3 only
- b. 1 and 4 only
- c. 2 and 3 only

d. 1 and 3 only

Answers

1. b

- **Sendai Framework** is the **successor** agreement to the **Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) (2005–2015)**, which had been the most encompassing international accord to date on disaster risk reduction.
- The UN agency for disaster reduction (UNISDR) has recently commended the Indian Meteorological Department's almost pinpoint accuracy of early warnings that helped authorities conduct a well-targeted evacuation plan and minimize the loss of life as extremely severe cyclonic storm Fani made landfall near the coastal city of Puri.
- India's zero-casualty approach to managing extreme weather events is a major contribution to the implementation of the **Sendai Framework** and the reduction of loss of life from such events.

2. b

- Microplastics are pieces of plastic debris that measure less than **five mm** long, roughly the size of a sesame seed, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.
- But they can **also be much smaller than five mm**.
- A recent study by experts had suggested that microplastics – long known as a **source of water pollution** – **may also travel by air**, spreading their ill effects far from dense population centres.

3. a

- A recent Maoist attack in Gadchiroli in Maharashtra left 15 police commandos who were the members of the elite **C-60 wing**, which was specifically set up in 1990 to tackle **Naxal violence**.
- C-60 commandos are the only district-level force in the country formed out of indigenous tribal population.

4. d

- Sri Vaishnava philosophy was initially propounded by that **Saint Ramanuja** and got a much wider audience with Vedanta Desikann's writings and preaching.
- One of the essential features of this philosophy was the aspect of inclusion.
- **Anyone, irrespective of caste and creed could join the Sri Vaishnava fold.**
- This is a truly democratizing movement that **obliterated caste distinctions**.

5. d

6. c

7. d

- Sound cannot travel through **vacuum**.

8. d

- The first coins to bear the names and images of rulers were issued by the **Indo-Greeks**, who established control over the north-western part of the subcontinent c. second century BCE.
- The first gold coins were issued c. first century CE by the **Kushanas**.
- These were virtually identical in weight with those issued by contemporary Roman emperors and the Parthian rulers of Iran, and have been found from several sites in north India and Central Asia.

9. d

- Pneumonia is caused by a number of infectious agents, including **viruses, bacteria and fungi**.

10. a

- Sittanavasal Cave – Tamilnadu
- Kanheri Caves – Maharashtra
- Manmod Caves – Maharashtra
- Undavalli Caves – Andhra Pradesh

06-05-2019

1) Consider the following statements with respect to Antrix Corporation Limited (Antrix)

1. It promotes and commercially markets the products and services emanating from the Indian Space and Defence Programme.
2. It works under the administrative control of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

2) Consider the following statements

1. No person in the service of the Government can act as a polling agent of a candidate.
2. When two candidates in a constituency, poll the same number of votes, and if one additional vote would entitle either of them to win, then the constituency will go for re-election.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

3) Consider the following statements

1. Unlike the Earth, the Moon has no atmosphere.
2. The Moon shines bright in the night sky because it produces more light during the night time.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only

- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

4) "Kanyashree" is a welfare scheme launched by which of the following States?

- a. West Bengal
- b. Kerala
- c. Tamilnadu
- d. Chattisgarh

5) Consider the following statements regarding the Mangrove Forests in India.

1. Mangroves along the East Coast are more luxuriant and considerably diverse.
2. Mangrove forests can decay into peat deposits because of fungal and bacterial processes as well as by the action of Termites.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

6) Consider the following pairs

1. First Generation Biofuel - Sugar
2. Second Generation Biofuel - Jatropha
3. Third Generation Biofuel - Algae

Which of the given above pair(s) is/are correctly matched?

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

7) Which one of the following statement is not correct regarding the Chief Minister of state?

- The Constitution does not contain any specific procedure for the selection and appointment of the Chief Minister
- The term of the Chief Minister is not fixed
- When no party has a clear majority in the assembly, then the governor may exercise his personal discretion in the selection and appointment of the Chief Minister
- The Constitution does require that a person must prove his majority in the legislative assembly before he is appointed as the Chief Minister

8) Consider the following Gandhian movement

- Kheda Satyagraha was the first hunger strike carried out by Gandhi in India.**
- The outcome of the Kheda movement resulted in the abolition of Tinkathia System.**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

9) What is the difference between Real GDP and Nominal GDP?

- Real GDP values are adjusted for inflation, while nominal GDP values are not.**
- Nominal GDP value is usually higher than Real GDP value.**
- Real GDP is expressed in Base year prices but Nominal GDP is expressed in current year prices.**

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

- 1 and 3 only
- 2 and 3 only

- 1 and 2 only
- 1, 2 and 3

10) Emission Gap Report is published by which of the following organizations?

- UN Environment
- UN Development Programme
- UNESCO
- Greenpeace International

Answers

1. d

- Antrix Corporation Limited (Antrix), incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 is a wholly owned Government of India Company under the administrative control of **Department of Space (DOS)**.
- Antrix is the commercial arm of **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**.
- Antrix promotes and commercially markets the products and services emanating from the **Indian Space Programme**.
- In the year 2008, the Company was awarded '**Miniratna**' status.

2. a

- According to Section 102 of the Representation of the People Act, if there is equality of votes and if one additional vote would entitle either of them to win, and if no decision has been made by the Returning Officer under the provisions of the Act, then the High Court decides by a lot.
- The candidate who wins the lottery wins the election.

3. a

- A space rock had recently collided with the Moon at 61,000 km an hour, making a 10-15 metres crater during January's total lunar eclipse.

- **Unlike the Earth, the Moon has no atmosphere** to protect it and even small rocks can hit its surface.
- Although the Moon shines bright in the night sky, **it doesn't produce its own light**.
- We see the Moon because it **reflects light from the Sun**.

4. a

- **Kanyashree project** of **West Bengal** government aims to provide financial assistance to schoolgirls to complete their studies.
- The project has had a significant role in reducing the rate of dropouts and preventing child marriage.

5. c

- The mangroves along the east coast of India is more (80%) than that of west coast (20%) because the terrain of the east coast has a gradual slope as plains compared with the steep gradient along the west coast.
- Mangrove forests can decay into peat deposits because of fungal and bacterial processes as well as by the action of termites.
- It becomes peat in good geochemical, sedimentary and tectonic conditions.
- The nature of these deposits depends on the environment and the types of mangrove involved.

6. d

7. d

8. d

- Gandhiji's first great experiment in Satyagraha came in 1917, in Champaran, in Bihar.
- The outcome of the champaran movement resulted in the abolition of Tinkathia System.
- Ahmedabad mill strike was the first hunger strike carried out by Gandhi in India.
- Kheda Satyagraha: was the first non co operation movement by gandhiji in india.

9. d

10. a

07-05-2019

1) The Global Assessment Report sometimes seen in the news recently was published by which of the following agencies?

- a. Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
- b. UN Forest survey
- c. Institute of Economics and Peace
- d. None of the above

2) Consider the following statements

1. It is a group of 36 islands known for its exotic and sun-kissed beaches and lush green landscape.
2. They are located between Africa and South-Western part of India.
3. Kolkali and Parichakali are the two popular folk art forms in the Territory.

Identify the archipelago that correctly matches with the above description?

- a. Socotra Islands
- b. Minicoy Islands
- c. Astola Islands
- d. Lakshadweep Islands

3) Consider the following statements with respect to Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO)

1. It is a pattern of fluctuations in the ocean, particularly over the north pacific basin.
2. Northeast India, one of the wettest places on the Earth has been experiencing rapid drying due to the Pacific Decadal Oscillation.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

4) According to the Indian Constitution, which of the following languages is/are considered as official language of India?

1. Hindi
2. English
3. All Scheduled languages

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

5) Consider the following statements

1. No two species have exactly the same niche.
2. Two species can share same habitat.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

6) Consider the following statements regarding Gupta society

1. The position of Sudras improved during this period, which could be attributed to the improvement in their economic status.
2. The condition of women declined during the same period and the first evidence of Sati was also during this period.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

7) Consider the following statements regarding Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

1. It is an agency of the United Nations that leads international efforts to defeat hunger.
2. Serving both developed and developing countries, it acts as a neutral forum where all nations meet as equals to negotiate agreements and debate policy.
3. It is the implementing agency for the World Food Programme (WFP) which provides food assistance to an average of 80 million people in 75 countries each year

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

8) “A bodhisattva with a blue lotus flower sitting among a crowd of devotees” is depicted by which one of the following paintings?

- a. Lepakshi wall paintings
- b. Badami cave paintings
- c. Virupaksha temple paintings in Hampi
- d. Padmapani paintings in Ajanta

9) Which one of the following is more effective in controlling prices in the long run?

- a. Decrease in production
- b. Increase in production
- c. Decrease in the rate of interest
- d. Increase in the rate of employment

10) Which of the following is/are a direct source of information about the interior of the earth?

1. Earthquake waves

2. **Gravitational force**
3. **Volcanoes**
4. **Earth magnetism**

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answers

1. d
 - **Global Assessment Report** on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services was prepared by **the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services** (IPBES).
 - It is the *first-ever* report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services.
2. d
 - Minicoy is an Island, not an archipelago.
3. c
 - The Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO) is a robust, recurring pattern of ocean-atmosphere climate variability centred over the mid-latitude Pacific basin.
 - The PDO is detected as warm or cool surface waters in the **Pacific Ocean, north of 20°N**.
 - During a "warm", or "positive", phase, the west Pacific becomes cooler and part of the eastern ocean warms; during a "cool" or "negative" phase, the opposite pattern occurs.
 - Over the past century, the amplitude of this climate pattern has varied irregularly at inter-annual-to-inter decadal time scales.
 - **Northeast India**, one of the wettest places on the Earth has been experiencing **rapid drying** due to the Pacific Decadal Oscillation.
 - Just like El Nino/La Nina in the tropical Pacific, PDO has a signature for a longer time (on the decadal scale) in the subtropical Pacific
4. a
 - This climate pattern also affects the coastal sea and continental surface air temperatures from Alaska to California.
5. c
6. c
 - Sudras were termed as cultivators during this period and compared with post mauryan period there was an improvement.
 - Sati system, First evidence was from Eran Inscription of Bhanugupta 510 AD.
7. b
 - The World Food Programme is the food-assistance branch of the United Nations and the world's largest humanitarian organization addressing hunger and promoting food security.
8. d
9. b
 - Decreasing production might increase the prices rather than reducing it.
 - Decreasing the interest rate will only work in the short term for controlling prices and it might act as an hindrance to growth.
 - Increasing the rate of employment though generally good will increase the demand thus causing inflation.
10. a
 - Volcanoes bring magma to the surface from which we can know about the interior of the earth.

- The other options do not tell anything directly about the earth's interior.

08-05-2019

1) Consider the following statements with respect to *Border Roads Organisation (BRO)*

- It is India's leading road construction agency under the Ministry of Defence.
- It is created solely for the purpose of meeting strategic requirements within India and should not work outside India.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are *incorrect*?

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

2) *Balukhand and Chandaka Dampara* Wildlife Sanctuaries are located in which of the following states?

- Madhya Pradesh
- Odisha
- Maharashtra
- Uttar Pradesh

3) Which of the following countries are *not* the members of *Arctic Council*?

- Canada
- India
- Russia
- United Kingdom

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- 1 and 3 only
- 2 and 4 only
- 2, 3 and 4 only
- 1, 2, 3 and 4

4) Consider the following statements with respect to *UDAY Scheme*

- It aims to provide financial and operational turnaround of power distribution companies.
- It was launched by the Ministry of Power.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are *incorrect*?

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

5) *Brasilia Declaration* is associated with which of the following?

- Peat land Conservation
- Hazardous wastes
- Nuclear weapons
- None of the above

6) Which of the following prominent Hindu shrines constitutes the *Chardham*?

- Kedarnath
- Maitri
- Badrinath
- Gangotri
- Baijnath
- Yamunotri

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- 1, 2, 3 and 4
- 1, 2, 3 and 5
- 1, 3, 4 and 6
- 3, 4, 5 and 6

7) The affairs of Non-Residing Indians and Overseas Indians will be dealt by

- Ministry of External Affairs
- Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs
- Ministry of Home Affairs
- Prime Minister's Office

8) Consider the following statements regarding the Permanent Settlement system in Bengal:

- Absolute ownership of the land is vested with monarchy and zamindars could not bequeath the land to their heir.
- The zamindars had to pay a fixed amount of revenue by a particular date, failure leading to the sale of zamindari.
- Most of the landlords did not take any interest in the improvements of the land.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

9) Which of the following are Temperate Grasslands?

- Steppes
- Pampas
- Savannas
- Downs

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- 1 and 2 only
- 2, 3 and 4 only
- 1, 2 and 4 only
- 1, 2, 3 and 4

10) Consider the following

- Minimum Alternative Tax
- Security Transaction Tax
- Luxury Tax
- Entertainment Tax

Which of the above mentioned items is/are Direct Tax?

- 1, 2 and 4 only
- 1, 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 2 only
- 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answers

1. b

- Border Roads Organisation (BRO) is a leading road construction agency under the Ministry of Defence with a primary role of providing road connectivity in border areas.
- It executes road construction and maintenance works along the Northern and Western frontiers primarily to meet the strategic requirements of the Army and is responsible for over 53,000 Km roads.
- The BRO has also **constructed roads in friendly foreign countries** like Bhutan, Myanmar, Afghanistan etc. thus contributing towards our strategic objectives in the region.

2. b

3. b

- The Ottawa Declaration lists the following countries as Members of the Arctic Council: **Canada**, the Kingdom of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, the **Russian** Federation, Sweden and the United States.
- India has been recently re-elected as an **observer** to inter-governmental forum Arctic Council.
- The Arctic Council promotes cooperation, coordination and interaction among Arctic states on common issues, particularly on sustainable development and **environmental protection**.

4. d

- Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY) aims to provide financial and operational turnaround of power distribution companies and aims at long term affordable and accessible 24x7 power supply to all.
- Under this programme, States shall take over 75% of DISCOM debt over two years i.e 50% of DISCOM debt shall be taken over in 2015-16 and 25% in 2016-17.

5. d

- The Brasilia declaration is also known for creation of IBSA (India, Brazil, and South Africa) forum in 2003.
- Global High-Level Conference on **Road Safety** hosted by Brazil and WHO adopted Brasilia Declaration on Road Safety.
- It calls for member countries have agreed to reduce the number of accidents and deaths to half by the year 2020. India is a signatory to this declaration.

6. c

- In Uttrakhand, the world renowned and much awaited chardham yatra began recently.
- Chardham yatra constitutes **Gangotri, Yamunotri, Kedarnath and Badrinath**.

7. a

8. c

- Though absolute ownership of the land is vested with monarchy, zamindars have given the ownership rights till they fail to collect the rental income as per the settlement.
- They can bequeath their property to their heirs.

9. c

- Savannas are Tropical Grasslands.

10. c

- Entertainment and Luxury Tax are Indirect Taxes.

09-05-2019

1) Consider the following statements with respect to *Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)*

1. It curtailed Iran's uranium enrichment program, and opened up Iran's nuclear facilities to international inspection.
2. It is a deal negotiated between Iraq and P5+1 Countries in 2015.
3. Following the withdrawal of USA from JCPOA deal, France had also recently withdraws from the agreement.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 1 and 2 only
- c. 1, 2 and 3
- d. None

2) Consider the following statements with respect to *World Customs Organization (WCO)*

1. It is one of the specialised agencies of the United Nations.
2. It aims to develop a balanced and effective international intellectual property (IP) system that enables innovation and creativity for the benefit of all.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

3) International Vesak day was celebrated to commemorate the life events of whom among the following?

- a. Buddha
- b. Mahavira
- c. Sachin Sanyal
- d. Nizamuddin Auliya

4) **CarbFix Project** sometimes seen in the news recently is associated with?

- a. Solidifying CO₂
- b. Advanced Carbon dating
- c. Natural gas extraction
- d. Insitu mining of Coal

5) Scientists have recently found a new species of reddish-brown pit viper – a venomous snake with a unique heat-sensing system in which of the following states?

- a. Assam
- b. Kerala
- c. Tamilnadu
- d. Arunachal Pradesh

6) **Wanchuwa festival** is celebrated in which of the following states?

- a. Tripura
- b. Manipur
- c. Assam
- d. Meghalaya

7) Which of the following is/are *not* the UNESCO's World Heritage Site?

- 1. Taj Mahal
- 2. Great Barrier Reef
- 3. Grand Canyon
- 4. Great Wall of China

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a. 1 only
- b. 1 and 3 only
- c. 2 and 4 only
- d. None

8) Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the formation of new states?

- 1. Constitutional Amendment is required for the formation of new states in India.
- 2. A Bill for creation of new states can be introduced only on the recommendation of the President.

- 3. The views of the state legislature are binding on the President.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

9) Consider the following statements regarding the Governor General William Bentinck

- 1. The Persian language was replaced by English as the court language in higher courts during his period.
- 2. He introduced the doctrine of lapse.
- 3. He was known for abolition of sati, suppression of infanticide and thugs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

10) Which of the following ocean currents are formed in the Pacific Ocean?

- 1. Benguela Current
- 2. Florida Current
- 3. Kuroshio Current

Select the correct answer using the code given below

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

Answers

1. a

- Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) was a deal negotiated between “**Iran** and P5+1 Countries” during the Obama era in 2015.

- P5+1 are the permanent five in UN Security Council (US, UK, France, Russia and China) and Germany.
 - The deal curtailed Iran's uranium enrichment program, and opened up Iran's nuclear facilities to international inspection.
2. d
- World Customs Organization (WCO), established in 1952 as the Customs Co-operation Council (CCC) is an **independent intergovernmental body** whose mission is to **enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of Customs administrations**.
 - WCO is the only international organization with competence in Customs matters and can rightly call itself the voice of the international Customs community.
3. a
- "Vesak", the Day of the Full Moon in the month of May, is the most sacred day to millions of Buddhists around the world.
 - It was on the Day of Vesak two and a half millennia ago, in the year 623 B.C. that the Buddha was born.
 - It was also on the Day of Vesak that the Buddha attained enlightenment, and it was on the Day of Vesak that the Buddha in his eightieth year passed away.
 - The UN General Assembly recognized internationally the Day of Vesak to acknowledge the contribution that Buddhism.
4. a
- The **Carbfix project** at **Iceland's** Hellisheidi plant (the world's largest geothermal facility) sought to **solidify the CO₂**.
5. d
- A team of herpetologists have recently discovered India's fifth brown pit viper (reddish-brown) — a venomous snake with a **unique heat-sensing system** – from a forest in West Kameng district of **Arunachal Pradesh**.
 - Arunachal pit viper (*Trimeresurus arunachalensis*) is the second serpent to have been discovered after the non-
- venomous **Crying keelback** in Arunachal's Lepa-Rada district in 2018.
 - The new species also makes **Arunachal Pradesh the only Indian state to have a pit viper named after it**.
6. c
- Wanchuwa festival is celebrated by Tiwa tribesmen of Karbi Anglong district in **Assam**.
 - Tiwas pray for a bountiful harvest and protection from agrarian pests during this festival.
7. d
8. b
9. c
- Bentinck engaged in an extensive range of cost-cutting measures through efficient financial management.
 - His modernizing projects included a policy of westernization, influenced by the Utilitarianism of Jeremy Bentham and James Mill.
 - Reforming the court system, he made English, rather than Persian, the language of the higher courts and encouraged western-style education for Indians to provide more educated Indians for service in the British bureaucracy.
 - He abolished the Provincial Courts of Appeal and Circuit and transferred these duties to the magistrates and collectors.
 - William Bentinck has followed the policy of the non-interference in the affairs of the Indian states.
10. c
- Cold water currents** in Pacific Ocean are:
1. Peru current
 2. California current
 3. Okhotsk current
 4. South Pacific current
- Warm ocean currents**
1. British Columbia current
 2. Kuroshio current

3. Oyashio current
4. East Australia current
5. North Pacific current
6. North Equatorial current
7. South Equatorial current

10-05-2019

1) Montevideo Mechanism sometimes seen in the news recently is associated with which of the following?

- a. Eliminate Malaria
- b. Iran Nuclear Deal
- c. Eliminating Micro Plastics
- d. Venezuelan Crisis

2) Tuila is a one-stringed instrument performed by the tribal communities of which of the following states?

- a. Telangana
- b. Maharashtra
- c. Odisha
- d. Madhya Pradesh

3) Consider the following statements with respect to Grizzled Giant Squirrel

1. It is usually found in the Eastern Himalayas especially in the state of Arunachal Pradesh.
2. Grizzled Squirrel Wildlife Sanctuary is located in the state of Tamilnadu.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

4) Saccharine sometimes seen in the news recently is a/an?

- a. Insecticide
- b. Anti-typhoid drug
- c. Bio indicator species
- d. Artificial Sweetener

5) Consider the following statements with respect to Ocean Deeps

1. They are long and broad in nature.
2. Most of the deepest trenches are more often found close to the continents rather than the middle of the oceans.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

6) Isthmus of Kra separates which of the following?

- a. Crimea and mainland Europe
- b. Andaman Sea and Gulf of Thailand
- c. Sea of Japan and Yellow Sea
- d. Caribbean Sea and North Pacific Ocean

7) Consider the following pairs

Ocean Deeps – Oceans

1. Mindanao Deep – Pacific Ocean
2. Tonga Trench – Pacific Ocean
3. Japanese Trench – Sea of Japan

Which of the pair(s) given above is/are correctly matched?

- a. 3 only
- b. 1 and 2 only
- c. 1, 2 and 3
- d. None

8) Consider the following statements regarding the Preamble of the Constitution

1. The idea of Preamble was borrowed from US constitution.
2. It is based on the ‘Objective Resolutions’ adopted by the Constituent Assembly.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

9) Which of the following statements about the religious ideas of Rammohan Roy is/are correct?

1. He believed in Monotheism.
2. He considered the Vedas to be eternal and infallible.
3. He laid emphasis on human reasons and rationality in all religious matter.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

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

10) With reference to “Krishi Vigyan Kendra’s (KVK’s)”, which of the following activities is/are envisaged for KVK’s?

- a. On-farm testing to assess the location specificity of agricultural technologies under various farming systems
- b. Produce quality technological products (seed, planting material, bio-agents, and livestock) and make it available to farmers
- c. Provide farm advisories using Information and Communication Technology and other media means on varied subjects of interest to farmers
- d. All of the above

Answers

1. d

- Montevideo Mechanism is a four-stage process consisting of immediate dialogue, negotiation, commitments and implementation to diffuse the rising tensions between **Venezuela**'s ruling socialist party and the U.S.-backed opposition, and promote a negotiated solution.
- It was jointly proposed by **Mexico and Uruguay** and backed by Bolivia and the Caribbean Community, among other countries.

2. c

- Tuila is a one-stringed instrument belongs to the chordophone category.
- It is performed by the tribal communities of **Jharkhand and Odisha**.
- It is also known as Uhila, Como ohila and Toila.



3. b

- It is an endangered species listed under **Schedule I** of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
- It has been categorised as **near threatened** by the IUCN Red List and listed under **Schedule II of CITES**.
- The species is usually known to nest in the **Western Ghats** in **Southern India** ranging from Chinnar Wildlife sanctuary in Kerala to Anamalai Tiger Reserve and Palani hills in Tamil Nadu.

- For the first time, researchers have sighted nests of the grizzled giant squirrel at Pakkamalai Reserve Forests near Gingee in the Eastern Ghats region of Tamil Nadu.
- **Grizzled Squirrel Wildlife Sanctuary** is located in Shenbagathoppu, Srivilliputtur, **Tamil Nadu**, India.

4. d

- The Finance Ministry has, on the recommendations of the Commerce Ministry, imposed an anti-dumping duty on the import of saccharine from Indonesia recently.
- Saccharine is a compound most commonly used in **sugar-substitute sweeteners**.

5. b

- Ocean deeps are the long, **narrow** trenches that plunge as great ocean deeps to a depth of 5000 fathoms.
- Contrary to our expectations, most of the deepest trenches are not located in the midst of oceans.
- They are more often found close to the continents, particularly in the Pacific Ocean.

6. b

- The Isthmus of Kra is bordered to the west by the Andaman Sea and to the east by the Gulf of Thailand.

7. b

- Mariana Trench – Pacific Ocean
- Mindanao Deep – Pacific Ocean
- Tonga Trench – Pacific Ocean
- Japanese Trench – Pacific Ocean

8. c

9. b

10. d

11-05-2019

1) Consider the following statements with respect to **Supreme Court**

1. The Parliament is not authorised to curtail the jurisdiction and powers of the Supreme Court.

2. The government cannot disapprove the recommendations of collegium with respect to appointment of judges at the first instance.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

2) **Vikram and Pragyan** sometimes seen in the news recently are associated with which of the following missions?

- a. IRNSS
- b. Gaganyaan
- c. Chandrayaan-2
- d. GAGAN

3) Consider the following statements

1. It is the largest wintering ground for migratory waterfowl found anywhere on the Indian sub-continent.
2. It was designated as the 1st Ramsar Site of India.
3. The Nalaban Island located within this lagoon is notified as a Bird Sanctuary.

Identify the **wetland** using the above description:

- a. Chilika Lake
- b. Loktak Lake
- c. Harike Wetland
- d. Wular Lake

4) Consider the following statements with respect to **Madhubani Painting**

1. They are locally known as Palagai Padam.
2. It has been traditionally done by the women of the region.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

5) National Technology Day is celebrated annually in India to mark which of the following events?

- a. Discovery of Raman Effect
- b. Birth day of Abdul Kalam
- c. India's first satellite launch
- d. Pokhran nuclear Tests

6) Recently, Ireland has declared *climate emergency* in their country. Which of the following countries is the first in world to declare a climate emergency?

- a. Britain
- b. Brazil
- c. Brunei
- d. Switzerland

7) Gender Inequality Index is released by which of the following organisations?

- a. OECD
- b. UNESCO
- c. World Economic Forum
- d. UN Development Programme

8) Consider the following statements regarding the 1857 Revolt:

1. It was the first ever revolt made by the Indian sepoys against the East India Company.
2. It was planned and organized by the Mughal Emperor Bahadur Shah Zafar.

3. Every participant in the revolt has the common aim that is to eliminate the Company rule in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. 3 only
- d. None

9) With reference to International Date Line (IDL), consider the following statements

1. A traveller crossing the IDL from east to west gains a day.
2. IDL is an imaginary straight line at 180 degree meridian.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

10) Phillips curve explains the relationship between

- a. Rates of taxation and the resulting levels of Government revenue
- b. Relation between rates of unemployment and corresponding rates of inflation
- c. Deviation of Distribution of income among individuals or households within an economy
- d. Graph depicting the relationship between the price of a certain commodity and the amount of it that consumers are willing and able to purchase at that given price

Answers

1. a
- The CJI and the Judges of the SC are appointed by the President.

- Whenever a vacancy is expected to arise in the office of a Judge of the Supreme Court, the CJI will initiate proposal.
 - The opinion of the CJI for appointment of a Judge of the Supreme Court should be formed in consultation with a **collegium** of the four senior-most Judges of the Supreme Court.
 - The government **can disapprove** the appointment of judges at the **first instance** and return it to collegium for reconsideration.
 - When collegium **reiterates** its recommendation, it is **binding** on the government.
 - The Parliament is not authorised to curtail the jurisdiction and powers of the Supreme Court.
 - The Constitution has guaranteed to the Supreme Court, jurisdiction of various kinds.
 - However, **the Parliament can extend the same.**
2. c
- Chandrayaan-2, the lunar lander mission planned to be launched during July 9-16, will have 14 Indian payloads or study devices.
 - The 3,800-kg spacecraft includes:
 1. an orbiter which will circle the moon at 100 km
 2. a five-legged lander called **Vikram** that will descend on the moon
 3. a robotic rover, **Pragyan**, that will probe the lunar terrain around it
3. a
- Situated on the east coast of India, and connected to the Bay of Bengal through a narrow sea mouth, Chilika is also a lagoon.
 - It is the largest brackish Water Lagoon with estuarine character that sprawls along the east coast.
 - It is the largest wintering ground for migratory waterfowl found anywhere on the Indian sub-continent.
 - It is one of the hotspot of biodiversity in the country, and some rare, vulnerable and endangered species listed in the IUCN Red List

of threatened Animals inhabit in the lagoon for atleast part of their life cycle.

- On account of its rich bio-diversity and ecological significance, Chilika was designated as the 1st "Ramsar Site" of India.
- The Nalaban Island within the lagoon is notified as a Bird Sanctuary under Wildlife (Protection) Act.

4. b

- Madhubani painting is also referred as **Mithila Art** (as it flourishes in the Mithila region of Bihar).
- It is characterized by line drawings filled in by bright colours and contrasts or patterns.
- This style of painting has been **traditionally done by the women** of the region, though today men are also involved to meet the demand.
- These paintings are popular because of their tribal motifs and use of bright earthy colours.
- These paintings are done with mineral pigments prepared by the artists. The work is done on freshly plastered or a mud wall.
- **Tanjore paintings** are locally known as **Palagai Padam** (*palagai* meaning wooden plank and *padam* meaning picture).

5. d

- Observed every year on May 11, National Technology Day is celebrated to mark the anniversary of the **Pokhran nuclear Tests** of 1998.

6. a

- **Ireland** has declared climate emergency in their country, to be the second country after **Britain** to do so.
- Britain's parliament became the first in the world to declare a climate emergency, passing the largely symbolic motion on May 1, 2019.
- The step followed 11 days of street protests in London by the **Extinction Rebellion** environmental campaign group.

7. d

- Gender Inequality Index – United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

- Global Gender Gap Index – World Economic Forum
 - Gender Parity Index – UNESCO
8. d
9. d
- The International Date Line (IDL) is an imaginary line of navigation on the surface of the Earth that runs from the north pole to the south pole and demarcates the change of one calendar day to the next.
 - It passes through the middle of the Pacific Ocean, roughly following the 180° line of longitude but deviating to pass around some territories and island groups.
 - There is a total difference of 24 hours between the two sides of the 180° meridian.
 - A traveller crossing the date line from east to west loses a day and while crossing the dateline from west to east he gains a day.
10. b
- The Phillips curve is a single-equation empirical model, named after A. W. Phillips, describing a historical inverse relationship between rates of unemployment and corresponding rates of inflation that result within an economy.
 - Stated simply, decreased unemployment, (i.e., increased levels of employment) in an economy will correlate with higher rates of inflation.

13-05-2019

1) Consider the following statements with respect to RISAT-2B

1. It is a modern radar imaging earth observation satellite.
2. It was planned to be launched using the Geo-synchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV).

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only

- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

2) One country, Two systems is a principle associated with which of the following affairs?

- a. Israel – Palestine
- b. China – Hong Kong
- c. Russia – Ukraine
- d. None of the above

3) Consider the following statements with respect to Pradhan Mantri Shram-Yogi Maandhan (PMSYM)

1. Under the Scheme, Rs 6,000 will be given per year to small and marginal farmer families having combined land holding of up to 2 hectares.
2. It comes under the Ministry of Agriculture.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

4) The Ocean Cleanup sometimes seen in the news recently is a/an

- a. NASA's initiative to clean oceans
- b. Awareness campaign by UNEP
- c. Global fund to eliminate plastics in beaches
- d. Non-governmental Organisation

5) Vietnam is bordered by which of the following countries?

1. China
2. Myanmar
3. Laos
4. Cambodia

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- All except 2
- All except 1 and 2
- All except 2 and 3
- 1, 2, 3 and 4

6) India has recently received the first Apache Guardian. Here the Apache refers to

- Attack Helicopter of USA
- Heavy lift Helicopter of USA
- Attack Helicopter of Russia
- Heavy lift Helicopter of Russia

7) Consider the following statements

- CSIR is the nation's custodian for measurement standards of mass, distance, time, temperature and current.
- Ministry of Culture is the custodian of Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL).

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

8) Commission of Railway safety works under the administrative control of which of the following ministries?

- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of Civil Aviation
- Ministry of Home Affairs
- Ministry of Railways

9) Consider the following statements regarding the privileges of the Members of the Parliament.

- The privileges of the Members of the Parliament are codified in the Indian Constitution.
- MPs have the freedom of speech to discuss the conduct of any Judge of the High Court.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

10) Consider the following statements regarding *Partition of Bengal (1905)*

- Moderate leaders wanted this movement to be confined to Bengal region only.
- Swadeshi and Boycott method was used in this movement.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answers

1. a

- RISAT-2B is a modern radar imaging earth observation satellite. It will be placed in an orbit of 555 km from the earth.
- It is scheduled to be lifted off by the workhorse rocket **PSLV-C46** in its 48th flight.
- PSLV will fly in 'core-alone' configuration carrying the satellite, without the use of solid strap-on motors.

2. b

- Under a policy known as "**One Country, Two Systems**", **Hong Kong** has a separate legal system to mainland **China**.
 - Beijing regained control over the former British colony in 1997 on the condition it would allow the territory "**a high degree of autonomy**", except in foreign and defence affairs" for 50 years.
 - However, a recent proposal allows suspects to be sent to mainland China for trial.
 - Critics believe the proposed switch to the extradition law would erode Hong Kong's freedoms.

3. d

- **Pradhan Mantri Shram-Yogi Maandhan (PMSYM)** is a pension scheme for the **un-organised sector workers** with monthly income of up to Rs 15,000.
 - It promises to provide assured pension of Rs 3,000 per month from the age of 60 years, in return for making a monthly contribution of a nominal sum during the working age.
 - The scheme will cover 10 crore workers in the unorganised sector in the first 5 years, making it one of the largest pension schemes in the world.
 - It comes under the **Ministry of Labour and Employment**.

4. d

- The Ocean Cleanup is ***non-government environmental organization*** based in ***Netherlands*** that develops technology to extract plastic pollution from the oceans.

5. a

6. a

- Recently, the Indian Air Force has formally received its first Apache Guardian **attack helicopter** at a Boeing production facility in the **United States**.
 - The US aerospace major Boeing has handed over first of the 22 Apache Guardian attack helicopters to the Indian Air Force, nearly three-and-a-half years after a multi-billion dollar deal for the choppers was sealed.

7. a

- CSIR is the custodian of Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL).

8. b

- The Commission of Railway Safety, working under the administrative control of the **Ministry of Civil Aviation** of the Government of India, deals with matters pertaining to safety of rail travel and train operation and is charged with certain statutory functions as laid down in the Railways Act (1989), which are of an inspectorial, investigatory & advisory nature.



9. d

- The privileges of the members of the Parliament and the State Legislative Assemblies are **not yet codified**.

- Although some of the privileges enjoyed by the members have been laid down in the statute, they have not been 'codified' or enacted into law.
- The Constitution does mandate that the Parliament or the state legislature enact the privileges into law.
- The Constitution itself imposes limitation upon the freedom of speech in Parliament, namely, that **no discussion shall take place in Parliament with respect to the conduct of any Judge of the Supreme Court or of a High Court** in the discharge of his duties except upon a motion for presenting an address to the President praying for the removal of the Judge.

10. c

- Extremists wanted to extend the movement to rest of India and beyond the programme of just Swadeshi and Boycott to full fledged mass struggle with aim of Swaraj but Moderates were not ready for it.
- The social boycott was an outcome of economic swadeshi movement. It was preached to go against the repressive measures of the Government. The social boycott was a very powerful weapon.
- The boycott of foreign goods led to the increase in demand of indigenous goods especially clothes which felt short of supply.

14-05-2019

1) Recently, a report titled "Sand and Sustainability: Finding new solutions for environmental governance of global sand resources" was released by?

- a. UN Environment
- b. Global Coral Reef Initiative
- c. Sustainable Development Solutions Network
- d. Global Environment Facility

2) Consider the following statements with respect to *Basel Convention*

1. It is a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from

chemicals that remain intact in the environment for long periods.

2. India and U.S.A are not the party to this convention.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

3) Consider the following statements with respect to *Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT)*

1. It is a multilateral treaty that bans all nuclear explosions, for both civilian and military purposes, in all environments.
2. It is a legally binding treaty.
3. India has neither signed nor ratified the treaty.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

4) MANAV sometimes seen in the news recently is a human atlas initiative launched by which of the following organizations?

- a. Department of Health Research
- b. Ministry of Earth Sciences
- c. Department of Bio-technology
- d. Council for Scientific and Industrial Research

5) Which of the following agencies has recently launched its maiden fund *NabVentures* to give support to agriculture, food, rural start-ups?

- a. National Agriculture and Rural Development Board

- b. National Association for sustainable agriculture
- c. Indian Council of Agricultural Research
- d. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development

6) Scientists have recently discovered a non-venomous snake locally called as *Ruahlawmrul* or Rain loving snake in which of the following states?

- a. Kerala
- b. Mizoram
- c. Tamilnadu
- d. Arunachal Pradesh

7) Consider the following statements with respect to *Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)*

- 1. It is an autonomous organization established in 1969 to promote research in social sciences in the country.
- 2. It comes under the Ministry of Human Resources and Development.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

8) Which one of the following is not a salient feature of Indian constitution?

- a. Absolute Parliament sovereignty
- b. Federal system with unitary bias
- c. Guaranteeing social equality
- d. The power of the parliament to supplement the Constitutional provisions by legislation

9) Early Europeans in India have made some of the settlements in India as part of their trading

and administrative centers. In this context, consider the following pairs:

| Nationality | Settlement |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. French | Pondicherry |
| 2. Danish | Serampore |
| 3. Portuguese | Daman |
| 4. British | Bengal |

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

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

10) The process of covering soil surface with materials like plant residues is called mulching. What are the uses of mulching?

- 1. Reduces the evaporation
- 2. Reduces the soil erosion
- 3. Reduces the weed growth
- 4. Reduces the fertilizer consumption.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answers

1. a

- **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)** has recently released a report, “Sand and Sustainability: Finding new solutions for environmental governance of global sand resources”.
- It highlighted that sand consumption globally has been increasing and we are extracting it at rates exceeding natural replenishment rates.

- It also says that, China and India head the list of critical hotspots for sand extraction impacts in rivers, lakes and on coastlines.
2. d
- The objective of the **Basel Convention** is to protect human health and the environment against the **adverse effects of hazardous wastes**.
 - **India is a party**, but **USA is not a party** to this convention.
3. d
- CTBT was adopted by the United Nations in 1996 but has not entered into force as eight specific states have not ratified the treaty.
 - When the Treaty enters into force it provides a **legally binding** norm against nuclear testing.
 - India, North Korea and Pakistan have not yet signed the Treaty.
 - *CTBT Organisation has recently invited India to be an observer in the treaty.*
 - *Becoming an observer to CTBT is expected to give India access to data from the International Monitoring System, which can detect even small nuclear explosions using seismology, hydroacoustics, infrasound and radionuclide technology.*
4. c
- MANAV is a human atlas initiative launched by the **Department of Biotechnology**.
 - It aims at creating a database network of all tissues in the human body from the available scientific literature.
5. d
- **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)** has recently launched **Nab Ventures** – its maiden fund to give support to agriculture, food, rural start-ups.
6. b
- Scientists have recently discovered a non-venomous snake in **Mizoram** named as **Smithophis atemoralis**.
- The snake is locally called Ruahlawmrul or rain-loving snake.
 - The new genus and species of the *natricine – predominantly aquatic* lacks specific enlarged scales in the temporal region of the head.
 - This character is extremely rare in snakes of this family, hence its name *Smithophis atemoralis* or the Mizo rain snake.
7. c
- Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) was established in the year of 1969 by the Government of India to promote research in social sciences in the country.
 - It comes under the **Ministry of Human Resources and Development**.
8. a
9. d
10. d
- 15-05-2019**
- 1) Fujairah Port sometimes seen in the news recently is located in which of the following regions?**
- Persian Gulf
 - Gulf of Oman
 - Gulf of Aden
 - Gulf of Suez
- 2) Assertion (A): Unlike in Earth, there will be no quakes in moon (Moon Quakes).**
- Reason (R): Unlike Earth, the Moon doesn't have tectonic plates.**
- Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**
- Both A and R is correct and R is the correct explanation of A
 - Both A and R are correct but R is not the correct explanation of A
 - A is correct but R is incorrect
 - A is incorrect but R is correct

3) Consider the following statements with respect to *YUva Vigyani Karyakram (YUVIKA)*

1. It is a capacity building programme on nano-satellite development to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the first United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE+50).
2. It was implemented by the department of Science and Technology.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

4) Consider the following statements with respect to *Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR)*

1. It is a grant-funding mechanism, managed by the World Bank.
2. India is a member of Consultative Group (CG) of Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR).

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

5) With respect to Economic Censuses (EC) in India, Consider the following statements:

1. Six Economic Censuses (EC) have been conducted till date.
2. Department of Economic affairs is the implementing agency for the 7th Economic Census.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

6) Consider the following statements with respect to *CSC e-Governance Services India Limited*

1. It is a Special Purpose Vehicle set up under the Companies Act, 1956 to oversee implementation of the CSC scheme.
2. It was setup by the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

7) Consider the following statements regarding the 'Prohibition' writ

1. It can be issued only against judicial and quasi-judicial authorities.
2. It is issued by the higher court to a lower court or tribunal to prevent the latter from exceeding its jurisdiction.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

8) With reference to the arrival of Europeans in India, arrange the following Europeans in a sequence of chronological order:

1. British
2. French
3. Portuguese

4. Dutch

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- 4 - 3 - 2 - 1
- 3 - 4 - 2 - 1
- 3 - 2 - 4 - 1
- 3 - 4 - 1 - 2

9) Even though an earthquake occurs inside the ocean there may not be a Tsunami occurring every time. Which of the following is/are the reasons for it?

- Very Low intensity of the quake
- Divergence of plate boundaries
- Movement of plates horizontally along transform faults
- Presence of trenches along the coast

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- 1 only
- 1 and 2 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2, 3 and 4

10) The Nilgiri Tahr, locally known as Nilgiri ibex, is found in which of the following states?

- Karnataka
- Tamilnadu
- Kerala

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answers

1. b

- Recently, four commercial vessels were “sabotaged” off a major tanker refuelling hub in the **United Arab Emirates’s port of Fujairah**.

- The incident took place near the UAE’s territorial waters in the **Gulf of Oman**, close to the **Strait of Hormuz**, a choke point for crude exports out of the oil-rich region.

2. d

- According to an analysis of imagery captured by NASA’s **Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter (LRO)** published recently, the Moon is steadily shrinking, causing wrinkling on its surface **resulted in quakes**.

- Unlike our planet, the Moon doesn’t have tectonic plates.**

- Instead, its tectonic activity occurs as it slowly loses heat from when it was formed 4.5 billion years ago.

- This in turn causes its surface to wrinkle, similar to a grape that shrivels into a raisin.

- Since the moon’s crust is brittle, these forces cause its surface to break as the interior shrinks, resulting in so-called thrust faults, where one section of crust is pushed up over an adjacent section.

3. d

- ISRO** has launched a special programme residential training program for School Children called “Young Scientist Programme” “YUva VIgyani Karyakram.

- The Program is primarily aimed at imparting basic knowledge on Space Technology, Space Science and Space Applications to the younger ones with the intent of arousing their interest in the emerging areas of Space activities.

- The programme will be of around two weeks duration during summer holidays and it is proposed to select 3 students each from each State/ Union Territory to participate in this programme covering state, CBSE, and ICSE syllabus.

- Those who have just finished 9th standard (in the academic year 2018-19) and waiting to join or in 10th standard will be eligible for the programme.

- The selection will be based on the 8th std marks (academic performance and extracurricular activities).
4. c
- *Recently, India has been unanimously chosen as co-chair of the Consultative Group (CG) of Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) for the fiscal year 2020.*
 - GFDRR is a global partnership that helps developing countries better understand and reduce their vulnerability to natural hazards and climate change.
 - GFDRR is a grant-funding mechanism, managed by the **World Bank** that supports disaster risk management projects worldwide.
 - **India became member of CG of GFDRR in 2015.**
5. a
- 7th Economic Census -2019 is being conducted by **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)** to provide disaggregated information on various operational and structural aspects of all establishments in the country.
 - Six Economic Censuses (EC) have been conducted till date.
 - The first Economic Census was undertaken in 1977 and the Sixth edition of Economic Census was conducted in 2013.
 - MoSPI has partnered with **Common Service Centres, CSC e-Governance Services India Limited**, a Special Purpose Vehicle under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology as the implementing agency for 7th EC 2019.
6. c
- CSC e-Governance Services India Limited, a Special Purpose Vehicle, has been set up by the **Ministry of Electronics & IT** under the Companies Act, 1956 to oversee implementation of the CSC scheme.
 - CSC SPV provides a centralized collaborative framework for delivery of services to citizens through CSCs, besides ensuring systemic viability and sustainability of the Scheme.
- MoSPI has partnered with **Common Service Centres, CSC e-Governance Services India Limited** as the implementing agency for 7th EC 2019.
7. c
- Prohibition means ‘to forbid’. It is issued by the higher court to a lower court or tribunal to prevent the latter from exceeding its jurisdiction that it does not possess.
 - Unlike mandamus that directs activity, the prohibition directs inactivity.
 - It can be issued only against judicial and quasi-judicial authorities.
 - It is not available against administrative authorities, legislative bodies, and private individuals or bodies.
8. d
9. c
- When the movement of plates is along a transform fault there is no vertical displacement of water. Hence there is no possibility of a Tsunami.
 - At the same time Low intensity quakes do not have the strength to trigger a Tsunami.
 - Divergence of Plate boundaries can trigger a Tsunami as it displaces a huge amount of water vertically.
 - Presence of trenches along the coast is not related to the triggering of a Tsunami
10. c
- Known locally as the Nilgiri ibex or simply ibex, is an ungulate that is endemic to the Nilgiri Hills and the southern portion of the Western Ghats in the states of Tamil Nadu and Kerala in southern India.
 - It is the state animal of Tamil Nadu.
 - It inhabits the open montane grassland habitat of the South Western Ghats montane rain forests eco region
 - Eravikulam National Park is home to the largest population.
 - Endangered

- Principal threats are habitat loss (mainly from domestic livestock and spread of invasive plants) and poaching.

16-05-2019

1) Services Trade Restrictiveness Index is released by which of the following organisations?

- a. WEF
- b. OECD
- c. WTO
- d. World Bank

2) Consider the following statements with respect to National Institute of Nutrition (NIN)

1. It's one of the major objective is to advise governments and other organisations on issues relating to nutrition.
2. It works under the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are **incorrect**?

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

3) Consider the following statements with respect to Botswana

1. It is a landlocked country in the Southern Africa.
2. Botswana is one among the countries through which equator passes through.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

4) Payment and Settlement Systems in India: Vision 2019 – 2021 is recently released by which of the following?

- a. National Payments Corporation of India
- b. Reserve Bank of India
- c. Indian Banks' Association
- d. Securities and Exchange Board of India

5) With reference to the removal of the Governor of a state, consider the following statements:

1. Governor shall be removed when there is a change in the Central Government.
2. The decision to remove a Governor cannot be challenged in a court of law.
3. Governor shall be removed when s/he is at variance with the policies and ideologies of the central government.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

6) Consider the following statements of Indian National movement during First World War (WWI)

1. Moderates and Extremists opposed British participation in WWI and demanded Dominion status.
2. Home rule League was the major freedom struggle initiated during WWI.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

7) Consider the following statements

1. Garo, Khasi, Jaintia Hills are part of Siwalik Himalayan range.
2. Narmada River is flowing through rift valley.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

8) Consider the following statements regarding IMF's Special Drawing Rights (SDR)

1. SDR is an international reserve asset to supplement the existing official reserves of member countries.
2. SDR is a paper currency.
3. The value of SDR is based on basket of US dollar, Euro, Japanese Yen, Chinese Renminbi and Pound sterling.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

9) In order for bio magnification to occur, the pollutant must be:

1. Long-lived
2. Static
3. Soluble in water
4. Biologically active

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a. 1, 2 and 3 only
- b. 1 and 4 only
- c. 1, 2, 3 and 4

- d. 3 and 4 only

10) Consider the following Pairs:

1. Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary - Tamilnadu
2. Fudam Wildlife Sanctuary - Puducherry
3. Pitti Wildlife Sanctuary - Goa

Which of the pair(s) given above is/are correctly matched?

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

Answers

1. b

- STRI is released by **Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)**.
- It was launched in 2014 and it ranks countries (both OECD and non-OECD) based on their services trade policies.
- The index is now available for 2018 for a total of 45 economies and 22 sectors.
- It has placed Indian service sector as highly restrictive in areas such as FDI.
- India has found problems with the current method under which index is being calculated.

2. d

3. a



4. b

- **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has released a vision document '**Payment and Settlement Systems in India: Vision 2019 - 2021**' for ensuring a safe, secure, convenient, quick and affordable e-payment system.

5. d

- In 2010, a constitutional bench of the Supreme Court interpreted these provisions and laid down some binding principles (*B.P. Singhal v. Union of India*). The Supreme Court held:
- The President, in effect the central government, has the power to remove a Governor at any time without giving him or her any reason, and without granting an opportunity to be heard.
- However, this power cannot be exercised in an arbitrary, capricious or unreasonable manner. The power of removing governors should only be exercised in rare and exceptional circumstances for valid and compelling reasons.

• The mere reason that a Governor is at variance with the policies and ideologies of the central government, or that the central government has lost confidence in him or her, is not sufficient to remove a Governor. Thus, a change in central government cannot be a ground for removal of Governors, or to appoint more favourable persons to this post.

• A decision to remove a Governor can be challenged in a court of law. In such cases, first the petitioner will have to make a *prima facie* case of arbitrariness or bad faith on part of the central government. If a *prima facie* case is established, the court can require the central government to produce the materials on the basis of which the decision was made in order to verify the presence of compelling reasons.

• In summary, this means that the central government enjoys the power to remove Governors of the different states, as long as it does not act arbitrarily, without reason, or in bad faith.

6. b

- Moderates supported the empire in the war as a matter of duty.
- The extremists including Tilak supported the war and belief that Britain would repay India's loyalty and gratitude in the form of self government.
- The revolutionaries decided to utilise the opportunity to wage a war on British rule and liberate the country.

7. b

- Garo, Khasi and Jaintia hills are the extension of Peninsular Plateau.
- The Meghalaya plateau is part of the Peninsular Plateau is further sub-divided into to – a) Garo Hills, b) Khasi Hills and c) Jaintia Hills.
- River Narmada flows in a rift valley, flowing west between the Satpura and Vindhya ranges.

8. b

- The Special Drawing Right (SDR) is an international reserve asset, created by the IMF in 1969 to supplement the existing official reserves of member countries.

- SDR is neither a currency, nor a claim on the IMF.
- Rather, it is a potential claim on the freely usable currencies of IMF members.
- The value of the SDR is based on a basket of key international currencies—the euro, Japanese yen, pound sterling, and U.S. dollar.

9. b

The pollutant must be:

1. Long lived – so that it would stay for long duration
2. Mobile – so that it would move from one organism to other
3. Soluble in fat – so that It would not be decamped/digested
4. Biologically active
- Example: DDT, PCB
- Heavy Metals: Copper, Mercury, Cadmium, Lead, Zinc

10. d

1. Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary - Kerala
2. Fudam Wildlife Sanctuary - Daman & Diu
3. Pitti Wildlife Sanctuary – Lakshadweep

17-05-2019

1) With respect to **UN Sasakawa Award 2019**, consider the following statements:

1. It is the UN's highest environmental recognition celebrating persons whose actions have had transformative positive impact on the environment.
2. It was established in 2005 by United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment).

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

2) With respect to **Lokpal**, which of the following statement is **incorrect**?

- a. The Lokpal consists of eight Members including a Chairperson out of whom 50% are Judicial Members
- b. The Chairperson and the Members are appointed by the President of India by warrant under his hand and seal
- c. The salary, allowances and other conditions of services of the Chairperson are the same as that of Chief Justice of India
- d. The Lokpal is vested with the power of search and seizure

3) Consider the following pairs:

1. **Basel Convention** – Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade
2. **Rotterdam Convention** – Control of Trans-boundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal
3. **Stockholm Convention** – Persistent Organic Pollutants

Which of the pair(s) given above is/are correctly matched?

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

4) With respect to **Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar**, which of the following statement is **incorrect**?

- a. His ideas were a happy blend of Indian and Western thought
- b. He changed the rules of admission in Sanskrit College, where he taught, to allow non-Brahmin students study there
- c. He played a major role in persuading the British to pass the Widow Remarriage Act

- d. He is known for his contribution to philosophy, education and reforming the Bombay society

- c. Tamilnadu
d. Andhra Pradesh

5) With respect to Indo-U.S relations, India signed which of the following four foundational agreements with U.S.A?

1. Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement for Geo-spatial Cooperation (BECA)
2. General Security Of Military Information Agreement (GSOMIA)
3. Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA)
4. Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement (COMCASA)

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

6) Consider the following statements with respect to IMDEX Asia – 2019

1. It is the inaugural edition of IMDEX Asia.
2. The biennial IMDEX Asia is Asia Pacific's premier international maritime defence show.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

7) Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary is located in which of the following states?

- a. Karnataka
- b. Kerala

8) With reference to the general features of the amendment procedure, consider the following statements:

1. The state legislature cannot initiate any Bill for amendment of the Constitution.
2. Constitutional Amendment Bills are to be introduced only in Lok Sabha.
3. Constitutional Amendment Bills cannot be introduced as a private member bill.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

9) Western Ghats are located in which of the following states?

1. Tamil Nadu
2. Gujarat
3. Goa

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

10) Which among the following soil type of India is the dominant one?

- a. Red Soil
- b. Black Soil
- c. Laterite soil
- d. Arid Soil

Answers

1. d

- **United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)** has recently conferred Sasakawa Award 2019 for Disaster Risk Reduction to the Additional Principal Secretary to Prime Minister of India.
- The United Nations Sasakawa Award is the **most prestigious international award in the area of Disaster Risk Management**.
- It was instituted more than 30 years ago and is jointly organized by the UNDRR and the Nippon Foundation.
- The theme of the 2019 Sasakawa award was "**Building Inclusive and Resilient Societies**".

2. a

- The Lokpal consists of a **Chairperson and eight Members** out of whom 50% are Judicial Members.
- The Chairperson and the Members are appointed by the President of India by **warrant under his hand and seal** and hold office for a term of **five years** from the date on which they enter upon the office or until they attain the age of 70 years, whichever is earlier.
- The salary, allowances and other conditions of services of the Chairperson are the same as that of **Chief Justice of India**.
- The salary, allowances and other conditions of services of the Members are the same as that of a **Judge of the Supreme Court**.
- Lokpal will have power of superintendence and direction over any central investigation agency including CBI for cases referred to them by the Lokpal.

3. b

- Basel Convention – Control of Trans-boundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal
- Rotterdam Convention – Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade

- Stockholm Convention – Persistent Organic Pollutants

4. d

- Vidyasagar is known for his contribution to philosophy, education and reforming **Bengal society**.
- He was a renowned educationist of his time and a social reformer who made significant contributions to the **Bengal Renaissance**.

5. c

- With COMCASA, India has signed three of the four foundational agreements with the U.S., and discussions are under way on the final one, **Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement for Geo-spatial Cooperation (BECA)**.

6. b

- Coming to its **12th edition**, the **biennial IMDEX Asia** is Asia Pacific's premier international maritime defence show and a must-attend event in the global naval and maritime security calendar.
- With established conferences and real-time discussions on maritime security, IMDEX Asia draw a plethora of global leaders and distinguished guests.

7. a

8. a

- An amendment of the Constitution can be initiated only by the introduction of a bill for the purpose in either House of Parliament and **not in the state legislatures**.
- The bill can be introduced either by a minister or by a private member and does not require prior permission of the president.

9. d

- The Western Ghats range starts near the border of Gujarat and Maharashtra, south of the Tapti River, and runs approximately 1,600 km (990 mi) through the states of Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu ending at Kanyakumari, at the southern tip of India.

10. a

18-05-2019

1) Consider the following statements with respect to *Medium Range Surface to Air Missile (MRSAM)*

1. It is an advanced air and missile defence system that can provide ultimate protection against a variety of aerial threats such as hostile aircraft, missiles and drones.
2. This missile has been jointly developed by the DRDO in collaboration with Israel Aerospace Industries.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

2) Which of the following countries is/are *not* the members of *Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)*?

1. India
2. North Korea
3. Israel

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a. 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1, 2 and 3
- d. None

3) Consider the following pairs

1. Mt. Kamet – Uttarakhand
2. Mt. Tenchenkhang – Sikkim
3. Mt. Makalu – Jammu and Kashmir

Which of the pair(s) given above is/are correctly matched?

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

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

4) Which of the following states has recently declared its second Chinkara Wildlife Sanctuary at Bukkapatna?

- a. Bihar
- b. Sikkim
- c. Karnataka
- d. Mizoram

5) Nandan Nilekani committee sometimes seen in the news recently is associated with which of the following?

- a. To review Coastal Regulation Zone Policy
- b. To review Special Economic Zone Policy
- c. To review Services export policy of India
- d. None of the above

6) Consider the following statements with respect to *Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)*

1. It is an independent, autonomous international organisation with a working relationship with the UN.
2. It was awarded Nobel Peace Prize in 2013.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are *incorrect*?

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

7) Which of the following has recently legalizes same-sex marriage in a landmark first for Asia?

- a. Vietnam
- b. Taiwan
- c. Brunei

d. India

8) The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act provided constitutional recognition to Panchayati Raj Institutions in India. Which of the following were provided as Compulsory provisions in the constitution with regards to Panchayati Raj Institutions?

1. Reservation of seats for SC/ST at all three levels in panchayats.
2. Mechanism for maintenance and auditing of accounts of the PRIs.
3. Direct election to all the members in panchayats at village, intermediate and district levels.
4. Devolution of powers to the panchayats as per 11th schedule of the constitution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

9) Consider the following statements with respect to Komagata Maru incident in Indian National Movement

1. Komgata maru was the name of a warship.
2. It was travelling from Singapore to Vancouver with Indian Migrants.
3. This incident triggered Ghadar party leaders to launch attack against British.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

10) Which of the following statements regarding the ITCZ is/are not correct?

1. It is a high pressure zone located at the equator.

2. Shifting of ITCZ with shifting of Sun helps in forming southwest monsoon and northeast monsoon.

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

Answers

1. c

- MRSAM is an advanced ground breaking air and missile defence system that can provide ultimate protection against a variety of aerial threats such as hostile aircraft, missiles and drones.
- DRDL Hyderabad, a DRDO Lab, has jointly developed this missile in collaboration with Israel Aerospace Industries.
- The MRSAM has been manufactured by Bharat Dynamics Limited, India.

2. b

- **Israel** has signed the Chemical Weapons Convention but not ratified the same.
- North Korea, Sudan and Egypt have neither signed nor ratified the Convention.

3. b

- Mt. Kamet – Uttarakhand
- Mt. Tenchenkhang – Sikkim
- Mt. Makalu – Nepal

4. c

- The **Karnataka government** has recently notified Bukkapatna Chinkara Wildlife Sanctuary in Sira taluk of Tumakuru district.
- Bukkapatna happens to be only the second protected habitat for the rare antelope in the state after Yedehalli in Bagalkot district.

- Bukkapatna sanctuary will be larger than Yedehalli sanctuary.
 - Bukkapatna will be the southernmost tip of the distribution range of chinkara in India.
5. d
- In January 2019, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had set up the five-member panel headed by Nandan Nilekani on **deepening digital payments** with a view to encouraging digitisation of payments and enhances financial inclusion through digitisation.
 - This committee has recently submitted its suggestions on promoting digital payments to Governor Shaktikanta Das.
6. d
- OPCW is an independent, autonomous international organisation with a working relationship with the UN.
 - It is the implementing body of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), which entered into force in 1997.
 - It has 193 Member States working together to achieve a world free of chemical weapons.
 - HQ - The **Hague, Netherlands**
 - It was awarded **Nobel Peace Prize in 2013**
7. b
- In a landmark first for Asia, **Taiwan's** Parliament has recently passed a bill legalising same-sex marriage.
 - The bill would allow same-sex couples to form 'exclusive permanent unions' and would let them apply for a 'marriage registration' with government agencies.
 - The island's Constitutional Court had ruled in 2017 that same-sex couples had the right to legally marry.
 - **Australia and New Zealand** are the only places in the wider Asia-Pacific region to have passed gay marriage laws.
 - **Vietnam** decriminalised gay marriage celebrations in 2015, but it stopped short of full legal recognition for same-sex unions.
8. b
- Statements 2 and 4 are voluntary provisions under the 73rd Constitutional amendment.
9. b
- Komagata Maru incident was a very significant event in the history of Indian revolutionary movement.
 - This was the voyage of Komagata Maru, which though inspired by the doctrine of the Ghadar party indirectly gave a fillip to the Indian struggle for freedom.
 - ***It was not a war-ship.***
10. a
- Inter Tropical Convergence zone (ITCZ) is a **low pressure zone** located at the equator where trade winds converge and it is a zone where air tends to ascend.
 - During summer, with northward shift of Sun ITCZ shifts northwards and cause the trade winds of the southern hemisphere cross the equator between 40 degrees and 60 degrees East longitudes and start blowing from southwest to northeast due to the coriolis force.
 - It becomes southwest monsoon.
 - In winter, the ITCZ moves southwards, and so the reversal of winds from northeast to south and southwest, takes place.
 - They are called northeast monsoons.

20-05-2019

1) Consider the following statements with respect to **SIMBEX-2019**

1. It is a biennial maritime exercise held between Srilanka, India, Myanmar and Bangladesh.
2. The 26th edition of SIMBEX (2019) is being conducted off the coast of Bay of Bengal.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2

d. Neither 1 nor 2

2) Consider the following statements with respect to Drugs Controller General of India (DGCI)

1. He/She is responsible for approval of licenses of specified categories of drugs such as blood and blood products, vaccines, IV fluids and sera in India.
2. He/She works under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

3) The State of the World's Forest Report 2018 was published by which of the following organizations?

- a. UN Environment
- b. Food and Agricultural Organisation
- c. Sustainable Development Solutions Network
- d. UNESCO

4) Directive Principles of the Indian constitution aims at establishing

1. Political democracy
2. Social democracy
3. Economic democracy

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

5) 'Oru-Jati, Oru-Matam, Oru-Daivam, Oru-Manushyanu' is associated with

- a. Sahodarn Ayyappan
- b. Sri Naryana Guru
- c. E.V.Ramasamy
- d. K.Kelappan

6) Consider the following statements regarding Bhitarkanika National Park

1. It is surrounded by Gahirmatha Beach
2. It is known for salt water crocodiles.
3. It is located in the mouth of Mahanadi Delta.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

7) Which of the following statement is correct regarding the Primary deficit?

- a. It is the difference between Revenue receipts and Revenue Expenditure
- b. It is the difference between capital receipts and Interest Payment
- c. It is the difference between the Fiscal Deficit and Interest Payment
- d. It is an addition of Fiscal Deficit and Interest Payment

8) What is the scientific reason behind the usage of CO₂ to extinguish the fire caused due to electrical or other fire accidents?

- a. It reduces the heat generation around the accident spot
- b. CO₂ reacts with oxygen thereby reduces the source for the flame
- c. It is heavier than oxygen and covers fire like a blanket
- d. The lighter nature of CO₂ makes it to act as a catalyst to extinguish the fire

9) The Pelindaba Treaty is related with which of the following?

- Neglected Tropical disease
- Nuclear Weapons Free Zone
- Peatland Conservation
- Maritime cooperation treaty

10) Which one among the following is an example for contact force?

- Gravitational force**
- Frictional force**
- Push force**
- Strain force**

Select the correct answer by using the codes given below:

- 1 only
- 2 and 4 only
- 1, 2 and 3 only
- 2, 3 and 4 only

Answers

- d
 - The **26th Edition of Singapore India** Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMPBEX) – 19 has commenced in the **South China Sea** recently.
- a
 - Drug Controller General of India (DGCI) under the gamut of Central Drugs Standard Control Organization, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is responsible for approval of licenses of specified categories of drugs such as blood and blood products, IV fluids, vaccines and sera in India.
 - DCGI lay down the standard and quality of manufacturing, selling, import and distribution of drugs in India.
 - It acts as an appellate authority in case of any dispute regarding the quality of drugs.
 - It prepares and maintains national reference standard.
- b
 - It brings about the uniformity in the enforcement of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act.
 - It trains Drug Analysts deputed by State Drug Control Laboratories and other Institutions.
- c
 - Part IV of the Constitution (Articles 36-51) contains the Directive Principles of State Policy.
 - It shall be the duty of the State to follow these principles both in the matter of administration as well as in the making of the laws.
 - They embody the object of the State as 'Welfare State'.
 - It aims at establishing the economic and social democracy. Whereas Part III or Fundamental Rights aims at establishing political democracy.
- b
 - Sahodarn Ayyaippan believed in Jati Venda, Matham Venda, Daivam Venda Manushyanu (**No Caste, No Religion, No God for Human-beings**). Despite such atheism, he nevertheless had deep respect for the Guru.
- c
 - Bhitarkanika National Park is a national park located in the Kendrapara District Odisha in eastern India.
 - The national park is surrounded by the Bhitarkanika Wildlife Sanctuary. Gahirmatha Beach and Marine Sanctuary lies to the east, and separates swamp region cover with canopy of mangroves from the Bay of Bengal.
 - The Bhitarkanika Mangroves cover an area of 650 km² in the river delta of the Brahmani and Baitarani rivers.
 - The Bhitarkanika Mangroves are home to 55 of India's 58 known mangrove species.
 - The mangroves harbor one of India's largest populations of saltwater crocodiles, and Gahirmatha Beach, which separates the mangroves from the Bay of Bengal, is the world's most important nesting beach for olive ridley sea turtles.
- c

- Primary deficit is one of the parts of fiscal deficit. While fiscal deficit is the difference between total revenue and expenditure, primary deficit can be arrived by deducting interest payment from fiscal deficit.
- Interest payment is the payment that a government makes on its borrowings to the creditors.
- Primary deficit = government spending – tax revenues
- Fiscal deficit = primary deficit + interest payments on borrowings.

8. c

- Carbon dioxide extinguishers work because carbon dioxide molecules are heavier than oxygen molecules.
- When the liquid carbon dioxide inside the extinguisher expands into a gas, the carbon dioxide pushes out any oxygen surrounding the fire. Without oxygen available to fuel the chemical reaction, the fire goes out quickly.
- This property can also make them dangerous in confined spaces since the carbon dioxide also pushes out any oxygen that the user needs to breathe.

9. b

- African Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (ANWFZT) also known as the Treaty of Pelindaba establishes a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Africa.

10. d

- Gravitational waves were too weak in nature and thus they will not interact with any types of matters in the universe and thus it is not included under the contact forces category.

21-05-2019

1) Ongole is a cattle breed originated from which of the following states?

- a. Karnataka
- b. Tamilnadu
- c. Rajasthan
- d. Andhra Pradesh

2) Consider the following statements with respect to 'Not all animals migrate by choice' campaign

1. It is an awareness campaign launched by World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF) and UN Environment.
2. All critically endangered species declared by IUCN will be featured in this awareness campaign.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

3) Consider the following statements with respect to Vayoshreshtha Samman

1. It is an award conferred to persons rendering distinguished services for the cause of physically challenged and elderly persons.
2. It was conferred every year by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

4) Consider the following statements with respect to Graphite

1. It is a naturally-occurring form of crystalline carbon.
2. It is the only non-metal element that is a good conductor of electricity.
3. It is also used to increase friction between two objects.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

5) Consider the following statements with respect to *Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB)*

1. It is a statutory multi-disciplinary body established to combat organized wildlife crime in the country.
2. It was established under the Ministry of Environment and Forests.
3. It was mandated to perform the normal and routine functions falling within the domain of the States / Union Territories.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

6) Consider the following statements with respect to *UN Environment Programme*

1. Sasakawa Prize and Champions of the Earth Award were given by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP).
2. Global Environment Outlook and Emission Gap Report were published by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP).

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

7) Consider the following statements:

1. All the Cabinet Committees are headed by the Prime Minister.
2. When the Lok Sabha is dissolved, a bill pending in the Rajya Sabha but not passed by the Lok Sabha does not lapse.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

8) Which of the following Geographical features are present in both Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep?

1. Coral Reefs
2. Volcanoes
3. Mangrove Forests

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

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

9) With reference to the Swaraj Party, consider the following statements:

1. C.R. Das and Motilal Nehru were the founders of the Congress-Khilafat Swaraj party.
2. It differed with Congress on the issue of carrying political work during non-active phase of the movements.
3. It continued to exist as a single party till Indian independence.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

d. 1, 2 and 3

10) Which of the following is/are *not* the recommendations of the Nehru report?

1. Dominion status
2. No reservation of seats for Muslims in Bengal and Punjab.
3. Freedom to practice one's religion
4. Adult universal franchise
5. Reservation of seats on the basis of population and for a fixed period of 10 years.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Answers

1. d
- Ongole cattle had originated in Prakasam and Nellore districts of **Andhra Pradesh** and expanded to Guntur, Krishna, Kurnool and Khammam.
2. d
- 'Not all animals migrate by choice' campaign is launched by **Wildlife Crime Control Bureau** of India (WCCB) and **UN Environment** aimed at airports across India.
 - 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.
3. b
- Phase two will see more threatened species and explore other routes of trafficking.
4. b
- The Department of **Social Justice And Empowerment** as part of celebration of the International Day of Older Persons (IDOP) on 1st October **every year** has been conferring National Award – **Vayoshreshtha Samman** to eminent **senior citizens** and institutions involved in rendering distinguished services for the cause of **elderly persons**. (Not for physically challenged).
5. b
- Graphite is a naturally-occurring form of crystalline carbon.
 - It is a native element mineral found in metamorphic and igneous rocks.
 - It is extremely soft, cleaves with very light pressure, and has a very low specific gravity.
 - It is the **only non-metal element that is a good conductor of electricity**.
 - It is also known as a **dry lubricant for its greasy feel**.
 - According to Geological Survey of India (GSI), about 35 % of India's total Graphite reserves are found in Arunachal Pradesh, this is the highest in the country.

6. c

Awards given by UNEP

1. Champions of the Earth Award
2. Young Champions of the Earth
3. SEED Awards
4. Sasakawa Prize

Reports published by UNEP

1. Global Environment Outlook
2. Emission Gap Report
3. Actions on Air Quality
4. Rise of Environmental Crime Report (along with INTERPOL)

7. a

- Cabinet Committees are **mostly** headed by the Prime Minister.
- Sometimes other Cabinet Ministers, particularly the **Home Minister or the Finance Minister**, also acts as their Chairman.
- But, in case the Prime Minister is a member of a committee, he invariably presides over it.

8. a

There are four major coral reef areas in India:

1. Gulf of Mannar
 2. Andaman and Nicobar Islands
 3. Lakshadweep Islands
 4. Gulf of Kutch
- Barren Island is an island located in the Andaman Sea.
 - It is the only confirmed active volcano in South Asia.
 - This volcanic island stands in the midst of a volcanic belt on the edge of the Indian and Burmese tectonic plates.
 - Narcondam Island is a dormant volcano in this area.

9. b

- In 1935, Swarajist party merged with Congress party prior to the elections conducted as per the Government of India Act, 1935.

10. d

Major Recommendations:

1. Dominion status op lines of self-governing dominions as the form of government desired by Indians
2. Rejection of separate electorates which had been the basis of constitutional reforms so far
3. Linguistic provinces
4. 19 Fundamental Rights
5. Responsible government at the centre and in provinces
6. Full protection to cultural and religious interests of Muslims
7. Complete dissociation of state from religion

22-05-2019

1) Yettinahole Drinking Water Project is implemented by which of the following states?

- a. Goa
- b. Gujarat
- c. Karnataka
- d. Madhya Pradesh

2) ARTEMIS Mission sometimes seen in the news recently is associated with which of the following pairs?

- a. NASA – MOON
- b. ISRO – Defence satellite
- c. ROSCOSMOS – MARS
- d. ESA – JUPITER

3) Consider the following statements with respect to National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA)

1. It is a Mission Mode Project (MMP) comes under the Digital India Programme.
2. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology is the nodal ministry for its implementation in all the 31 States/UTs with Legislatures.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are *incorrect*?

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

4) Consider the following pairs

1. Koyna Dam – Bihar
2. Baje Dam – Tamilnadu
3. Kabini Dam – Kerala

Which of the pair(s) given above is/are correctly matched?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1, 2 and 3
- d. None

5) *Ankasamudra Bird Conservation Reserve* sometimes seen in the news recently is located in which of the following states?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Uttar Pradesh
- c) Odisha
- d) Madhya Pradesh

6) Which of the following does *not* come under the original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court?

- a. Dispute between Centre and one or more states
- b. Dispute between the Centre and a Union Territory
- c. Dispute between two or more states
- d. Disputes between the Centre and any state or states on one side and one or more states on the other

7) Sarojini Naidu referred which of the following personality as “An Ambassador of Hindu-Muslim Unity”?

- a. M.K. Gandhi
- b. Jawaharlal Nehru
- c. Muhammad Ali Jinnah
- d. Maulana Abul Kalam

8) With reference to Indian National Movement, What is *Abhinava Bharat*?

- a. Newspaper of the revolutionary movement
- b. Play related to Anti-partition movement
- c. A secret society of revolutionaries
- d. A social reform movement

9) The Bhimbetka rock shelters are an archaeological site of the Paleolithic, exhibiting the earliest traces of human life on the Indian Subcontinent, and thus the beginning of the Indian Stone Age. It is located inside of the

- a. Satpura Tiger Reserve
- b. Ratapani Tiger Reserve
- c. Panna Tiger Reserve
- d. Kanha Tiger Reserve

10) Which of the following type of rocks are present in Deccan Trap?

1. Igneous
2. Sedimentary
3. Metamorphic

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answers

1. c
2. a
- Artemis is **NASA's next mission to the Moon.**
 - ARTEMIS stands for Acceleration, Reconnection, Turbulence and Electrodynamics of Moon's Interaction with the Sun.
 - The mission consists of spacecraft to measure what happens when the Sun's radiation hits our rocky moon, where there is no magnetic field to protect it.
3. a
- National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA) is a Mission Mode Project (MMP) comes under the Digital India Programme.
 - Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (MoPA) is the 'Nodal Ministry'** for its implementation in all the 31 States/UTs with Legislatures.
 - The funding for e-Vidhan is provided by the MoPA and **technical support by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).**
 - The funding of NeVA is through Central Sponsored Scheme. 60:40; and 90:10 for North East & hilly States and 100% for UTs.
 - The project aims to bring all the legislatures of the country together, in one platform thereby creating a massive data depository without having the complexity of multiple applications.
4. d
- Koyna Dam – Maharashtra
 - Baje Dam – Karnataka
 - Kabini Dam – Karnataka
5. a
- Wildlife conservation activities, has written a letter to the Panchayat Chief Executive Officer urging him not to establish the eco-park near the **Ankasamudra Bird Conservation reserve in Karnataka** and shift the proposal to another suitable place, apprehending that it would pose a threat to a wide variety of birds roosting and nesting there.
6. b
- Such cases are originally heard by the respective High Court.
7. c
- It was during Lucknow Pact, the Nightingale of India, Sarojini Naidu, gave **Jinnah** the title of "the Ambassador of Hindu-Muslim Unity".
8. c
- Abhinav Bharat is a right wing Hindu extremist organization of the pre-Independence era.
9. b
- The Bhimbetka rock shelters are an archaeological site of the Paleolithic, exhibiting the earliest traces of human life on the Indian Subcontinent, and thus the beginning of the Indian Stone Age.
 - It is located in the Raisen District in the Indian state of Madhya Pradesh, near Abdullaganj town and inside the Ratapani Wildlife Sanctuary.
 - Some of the Stone Age rock paintings found among the Bhimbetka rock shelters are some 30,000 years old.
10. a
- The Deccan Traps are a large igneous province located on the Deccan Plateau of westcentral India and one of the largest volcanic features on Earth.
 - They consist of multiple layers of solidified flood basalt that together are more than 2,000 m thick, cover an area of 500,000 km².

23-05-2019

1) With reference to "**Tree Ambulance**" which was recently launched by the Indian Vice President, consider the following statements:

- It is an ambitious project launched by the Government of Tamilnadu.
- The services provided by the tree ambulance include first-aid treatment,

uprooted tree planting, seed bank and removal of dead trees.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

2) Consider the following statements with respect to **Brahmos Missile**

- 1. It operates on Fire and Forget Principle, adopting varieties of flights on its way to the target.
- 2. Brahmos will only be integrated with land based and sea based equipments.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

3) Consider the following statements with respect to **India Biodiversity Awards**

- 1. It was initiated in 2012 by the Government of India in partnership with UN Environment Programme (UNEP).
- 2. It was conferred to recognize and honour outstanding models of biodiversity conservation, sustainable use and governance at the grassroots level.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

4) Consider the following statements with respect to **RISAT-2B**

- 1. It is a radar imaging earth observation satellite weighing 3990 kg.
- 2. The satellite is intended to provide services in the field of Agriculture, Forestry and Disaster Management.
- 3. It was launched using Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) – F06.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

5) Consider the following statements with respect to **Assam Rifles**

- 1. It is one of the youngest armed forces under the Ministry of Defence.
- 2. It guards the Indo-Myanmar border and countering the insurgency in the north east states.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

6) Which of the following is the theme for **International Day for Biological Diversity 2019**?

- a. Our Biodiversity, Our Food, Our Health
- b. Celebrating 25 Years of Action for Biodiversity
- c. Biodiversity and Sustainable Tourism
- d. Biodiversity for Sustainable Development

7) Who appoints the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) for a particular state in India?

- The President
- The Governor of the respective state
- The State Election Commission of the particular state
- The Central Election Commission

8) Consider the following statements regarding Financial Action Task Force (FATF)

- It was established during the 1989 G7 Summit in Paris to combat the growing problem of money laundering.
- The mandate of the organization was expanded to include terrorist financing following the September 11 terror attacks.
- Base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS) is one of the project given by this FATF to prevent money laundering activity

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

9) With reference to the "Sangam Literature", Consider the following statements

- Sangam literature dealt both with personal lives such as love and relationships as well as ethics, heroism, values and social customs.
- Both men and women poets composed Sangam literature.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

10) With reference to the "Westerlies", Consider the following statements

- Westerlies originate in the horse latitudes and move towards the poles
- Westerlies are strong in the Northern Hemisphere and are weak in the Southern Hemisphere
- Westerlies move from west to east in both Northern and Southern Hemispheres

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answers

- b
The tree ambulance initiative is the brainchild of Green man of India, Dr K Abdul Ghani.
- a
It is a joint effort by **SASA group** under able guidance of **Dr Abdul Ghani** to deliver a positive environmental impact by exclusively caring for trees.
The services provided by the tree ambulance include first-aid treatment, uprooted tree planting, seed bank, seed ball distribution, plant distribution, aiding tree plantation, shifting trees, a survey of trees and removal of dead trees.
- a
Recently, Indian Air Force has successfully test fired the BrahMos **air version missile** from its frontline Su-30 MKI fighter aircraft.
The integration of the weapon on the aircraft was a very complex process involving mechanical, electrical and software modifications on aircraft.
- b
In 2012, the Government of India, in partnership with **UNDP India**, initiated the India Biodiversity Awards to recognize and honour outstanding models of biodiversity

conservation, sustainable use and governance at the grassroots level.

4. a

- India's **Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C46)** has recently launched the RISAT-2B satellite from Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) SHAR, Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh.
- RISAT-2B is a radar imaging **Earth Observation Satellite** weighing about **615 kg**.
- The satellite is intended to provide services in the field of **Agriculture, Forestry and Disaster Management**.

5. b

- Assam Rifles is the **oldest Para Military Force of India** with a rich history of valour, courage and tradition.
- The Assam Rifles came into being in 1835, as a militia called the 'Cachar Levy'.
- With approximately 750 men, this Force was formed to primarily protect British Tea estates and their settlements against tribal raids.

6. a

- May 22 is celebrated every year as the International day for Biological Diversity.
- The theme for the year 2019: **Our Biodiversity, Our Food, Our Health**

7. d

- The Chief Electoral Officer of a state/ Union Territory is authorized to supervise the election work in the state/Union Territory subject to the overall superintendence, direction and control of the Election Commission.
- The **Election Commission of India** nominates or designates an Officer of the Government of the state / Union Territory as the Chief Electoral Officer in consultation with that State Government / Union Territory Administration.

8. b

- Base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS) is a tax avoidance strategy used by multinational companies, wherein profits are shifted from

jurisdictions that have high taxes (such as the United States and many Western European countries) to jurisdictions that have low (or no) taxes (so called tax havens).

- The term is used in a project headed by the **OECD** which produced detailed reports in September 2014 in response to seven actions agreed previously.

9. c

- The poems belonging to the Sangam literature were composed by Tamil poets, both men and women, from various professions and classes of society.
- These poems were later collected into various anthologies, edited, and with colophons added by anthologists and annotators around 1000 AD.
- Sangam Poems falls into two categories: the 'inner field' (Agam), and the 'outer field'(Puram) as described even in the first available Tamil grammar, the Tolkappiyam.
- The 'inner field' topics refer to personal or human aspects, such as love and sexual relationships, and are dealt with in a metaphorical and abstract manner.
- The 'outer field' topics discuss all other aspects of human experience such as heroism, valour, ethics, benevolence, philanthropy, social life, and customs.

10. c

- The Westerlies, anti-trades, or Prevailing Westerlies, are prevailing winds from the west toward the east in the middle latitudes between 30 and 60 degrees latitude.
- They originate from the high pressure areas in the horse latitudes and tend towards the poles and steer extra tropical cyclones in this general manner.
- The winds are predominantly from the southwest in the Northern Hemisphere and from the northwest in the Southern Hemisphere.
- The Westerlies are strongest in the winter hemisphere and at times when the pressure is lower over the poles, while they are weakest in the summer hemisphere and when pressures are higher over the poles.

- The **Westerlies are particularly strong, especially in the southern hemisphere**, where there is less land in the middle southern latitudes to cause the flow pattern to amplify, or become more northsouth oriented, which would slow the Westerlies.

- a. UN Women
- b. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
- c. World Economic Forum
- d. International Labour Organization

24-05-2019

1) Consider the following statements with respect to CFC-11 sometimes seen in the news recently

1. It is one of a class of compounds called chlorofluorocarbons that destroy atmospheric ozone.
2. They are also potent greenhouse gases that contribute to atmospheric warming.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

2) Consider the following statements

1. Snakebite envenoming is classified as a Neglected Tropical Disease by World Health Organization (WHO).
2. A new strategy aimed at cutting snakebite-related deaths and disabilities in half by 2030 was released recently by the World Health Organizations (WHO).

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

3) **Women in Business and Management: The business case for change report** was recently published by which of the following organizations?

4) Which of the following is/are the primary producers in the Ecology?

1. Green Plants
2. Algae
3. Virus
4. Bacteria

Select the correct answer using the code given below

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

5) Consider the following statements regarding the concept of Eclipse

1. When the shadow of the Earth falls on the moon it is called Lunar eclipse.
2. When the shadow of the moon falls on the Earth it is called Solar eclipse.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

6) PRASAD, an initiative of the Government of India, aims for

- a. Promoting Self Help Groups in rural areas
- b. Providing Free power for the farmers
- c. Providing Free LPG Gas connection for Rural Women community
- d. Promoting Tourism sector in selective cities

7) Which of the following Basic Values of the Indian Constitution were included in the Karachi Resolutions, 1931?

1. Universal Adult Franchise
2. Right to Freedom and Equality
3. Protection of Minority Rights
4. Secularism of State.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

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

8) Which of the following countries does/do have an open access to sea/water body?

1. Iraq
2. Syria
3. Turkmenistan
4. Jordan

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

9) The Election Commission of India consists of Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and two Election Commissioners (EC). With regard to these two officials, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Both CEC and EC receive equal salary.
2. Both CEC and EC are provided with security of tenure.
3. In case of difference of opinion amongst them, the view of CEC prevails.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

10) Which of the following offices are the Constitutional posts in India?

1. Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities
2. Advocate General of State
3. Additional Solicitor General of India

Select the correct answer using the codes

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

Answers

1. c

- CFC-11 is one of a class of compounds called chlorofluorocarbons that destroy atmospheric ozone. They are also potent greenhouse gases that contribute to atmospheric warming.
- An international team of researchers have recently found that rogue emissions of CFC-11 gas that harms the ozone layer are coming from eastern China, primarily from two heavily industrialised provinces.

2. c

- The World Health Organization (WHO) has recently unveiled a new strategy to dramatically cut deaths and injuries from snakebites.
- WHO, which two years ago categorised “snakebite envenoming” as a Neglected Tropical Disease, presented this strategy which aimed at cutting snakebite-related deaths and disabilities in half by 2030.
- An important part of the strategy is to significantly boost production of quality anti-venoms.

3. d

- According to the report, companies that improve gender diversity — especially at the top — perform better and rake in higher profits, while countries that increase women employment see better economic growth.
4. b
- Primary producers are organisms in an ecosystem that produce biomass from inorganic compounds (autotrophs).
 - In almost all cases these are photo synthetically active organisms (plants, cyanobacteria and a number of other unicellular organisms).
 - However, there are examples of archaea and bacteria (unicellular organisms) that produce biomass from the oxidation of inorganic chemical compounds (chemo autotrophs) in hydrothermal vents in the deep ocean.
5. c
- An eclipse is an astronomical event that occurs when an astronomical object is temporarily obscured, either by passing into the shadow of another body or by having another body pass between it and the viewer.
 - The term eclipse is most often used to describe either a solar eclipse, when the Moon's shadow crosses the Earth's surface, or a lunar eclipse, when the Moon moves into the Earth's shadow.
6. d
- Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spirituality Augmentation Drive (PRASAD) Scheme aims to promote tourism sector in selective cities comes under the Ministry of Tourism.
7. d
- Some important aspects of Karachi Resolution 1931:
- Basic civil rights of freedom of speech, Freedom of Press, Freedom of assembly, Freedom of association,
 - Equality before law
 - Elections on the basis of Universal Adult Franchise
 - Free and compulsory primary education.
 - Substantial reduction in rent and taxes
- Better conditions for workers including a living wage, limited hours of work.
 - Protection of women and peasants
 - Government ownership or control of key industries, mines, and transport.
 - Protection of Minorities.
 - Neutrality of state in regard to all religions.
8. d
9. b
10. a
- Art 76 mentions only about the Attorney General of India it does not mention anything about Solicitor general or Additional Solicitor.
 - Article 350B - Special Officer for linguistic minorities

25-05-2019

1) Consider the following statements with respect to *Urban 20* initiative

1. It is an initiative convened by the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group (C40) in collaboration with United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG).
2. It aims to tackle global challenges by leveraging the potential of cities as hubs of diversity and innovation.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

2) Consider the following statements with respect to *Indian Coast Guard*

1. It is the oldest paramilitary forces of India with a rich history of valour, courage and tradition.
2. It works under the administrative control of Ministry of Home Affairs.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

3) In which of the following coastal region, thick deposits of “Guano”, a valuable fertilizer is found?

- a. Madagascar Coast
- b. Namibian Coast
- c. California Coast
- d. Peruvian Coast

4) The Non-Cooperation Movement was initiated for which of the following reasons?

- 1. The Khilafat issue
- 2. Partition of Bengal
- 3. The Punjab wrongdoings
- 4. Demand of Swaraj or Self Government

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

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

5) Which of the following are the important features of the Dravida Style of Architecture?

- 1. Gopuras
- 2. Mantapas
- 3. Shikara
- 4. Pillared halls
- 5. Vimana

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

- a. 1, 2, 4 and 5 only

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

6) Consider the following statements

- 1. The growing season is all around the year
- 2. It experience neither drought nor cold to check the growth
- 3. It has tropical rainforest vegetation.

The given above statements rightly describe about which of the following?

- a. Selvas
- b. Campos
- c. Veld
- d. Pampas

7) Consider the following statements

- 1. An Eminent Jurist, in the opinion of President, can be appointed as Attorney General of India by the President of India.
- 2. An Eminent Jurist, in the opinion of President, can be appointed as Supreme Court Judge by the President of India.

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

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

8) What would be the consequences on the Economy, when the Reserve Bank of India reduces the Cash Reserve Ratio?

- 1. The liquidity situation will be improved
- 2. The inflation will come down
- 3. It will result into Cheap Money Policy

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

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

9) Which one of the following does not affect the temperature distribution of oceans?

- a. Local weather conditions
- b. Ocean currents
- c. Salinity of the ocean
- d. Extent of continental shelf

10) Which of the following is not an Ozone Depleting Substance but a potent Green House Gas?

- a. Chlorofluoro carbon
- b. Hydrofluoro carbon
- c. Hydrofluoro olefin
- d. Hydro Cholorofluoro carbon

Answers

1. c

- Urban 20 (U20) is an initiative developed in 2017 under the leadership of the Mayor of Buenos Aires and Mayor of Paris, and convened by the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group (C40) in collaboration with United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG).
- U20 seeks to develop a joint position and collective messages to inform and enrich the discussions of national leaders at the G20 Summit through unique urban perspectives.
- It aims to tackle global challenges by leveraging the potential of cities as hubs of diversity and innovation.
- Urban 20 is composed of 25 global cities: Beijing, Berlin, City of Buenos Aires, Chicago, Durban, Hamburg, Jakarta, Johannesburg, London, Los Angeles, Madrid, Melbourne, Mexico City, Milan, Montreal, Moscow, New

York, Paris, Rio de Janeiro, Rome, Sao Paulo, Seoul, Sydney, Tokyo, and Tshwane.

2. d

- Assam Rifles is the **oldest Para Military Force of India** with a rich history of valour, courage and tradition.
- Indian Coast Guard (ICG) is one of the **youngest Armed Forces** under **Ministry of Defence**.

3. d

- Guano is the accumulated excrement of seabirds, seals, or cave-dwelling bats.
- The greatest sources of guano were the three (North, Central and South) Chincha Islands, located in the Bay of Pisco 21 kilometres from the city of Pisco in the Ica department of **central Peru**.
- As a manure, guano is a highly effective fertilizer due to its exceptionally high content of nitrogen, phosphate and potassium: nutrients essential for plant growth.

4. c

- Partition of Bengal was annulled on 12 December 1911. So this can't be a reason for the non cooperation movement.

5. a

- Shikara is the superstructure, tower, or spire above the sanctuary and also above the pillared mandapas (porches or halls); it is the most dominant and characteristic feature of the Hindu temple in the north.
- Though shikara and vimana are superstructures over Garapagraha, the structures are entirely different and Shikara is present **only in North Indian Architecture**.

6. a

- SELVAS is a forest found in South America near Amazon basin.
- The year round high temperatures and abundant rainfall in equatorial regions support a luxuriant type of vegetation – Tropical or equatorial rain forests.
- Unlike the temperate regions, the growing seasons here is all year round.

- Seeding, Flowering, Fruiting & Decaying do not take place in seasonal pattern, so some trees may be flowering while others only a few yards away may be bearing fruits.
- There is neither drought nor cold to check the growth in any part of the year.
- Unlike the temperate forests, many different types of trees and other plants can be found growing in a relatively small area of rainforest.
- Rainforests cover only about 6 % of the Earth's surface. However, they contain about half of the world's known animal species and provide about 40% of the world's oxygen.

7. d

8. a

- 'Cheap Money'- A loan or credit with a low interest rate, or the setting of low interest rates by a central bank like the Federal Reserve.
- Cheap money is good for borrowers, but bad for investors, who will see the same low interest rates on investments like savings accounts, money market funds, CDs and bonds.
- Cheap money can have detrimental economic consequences as borrowers take on excessive leverage.

9. d

10. b

- Hydro Fluoro carbons (HFCs),- They are commonly used in air conditioning and as refrigerants in place of the older chlorofluorocarbons such as R-12 and Hydro Chloro Fluoro Carbons such as R-21.
- They do not harm the ozone layer as much as the compounds they replace; however, they do contribute to global warming.
- Their atmospheric concentrations and contribution to anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions are rapidly increasing, causing international concern about their radiative forcing.

27-05-2019

1) EQUIP project sometimes seen in the news recently is an initiative of which of the following ministries?

- a. Ministry of Science and Technology
- b. Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs
- c. Ministry of Human Resource Development
- d. Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

2) Gangaikondan Spotted Deer Sanctuary is located in which of the following states?

- a. Kerala
- b. Tamilnadu
- c. Andhra Pradesh
- d. Telangana

3) Consider the following statements with respect to National Board for Wildlife (NBWL)

1. It was established through an executive resolution of Government of India.
2. It is chaired by the Prime Minister of India.
3. No alteration of boundaries in national parks and wildlife sanctuaries can be done without the approval of the NBWL.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a. 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1, 2 and 3
- d. None

4) Researchers have recently discovered the tenth species of vine snake in which of the following Biosphere Reserve?

- a. Simlipal Biosphere Reserve
- b. Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve
- c. Nilgris Biosphere Reserve
- d. Pachmarhi Biosphere Reserve

5) Waste Management means

1. Reducing the waste
2. Reusing the waste
3. Recycling the waste
4. Preventing the waste production

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

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

6) Which of the following committee recommended raising the age limit of civil services to 23 during the British rule?

- a. Aitchison committee
- b. Montord reforms
- c. Lee commission
- d. Hartog committee

7) Which one of the following statement is not correct regarding the Chief Minister of state?

- a. The Constitution does not contain any specific procedure for the selection and appointment of the Chief Minister
- b. The term of the Chief Minister is not fixed
- c. When no party has a clear majority in the assembly, then the governor may exercise his personal discretion in the selection and appointment of the Chief Minister
- d. The Constitution does require that a person must prove his majority in the legislative assembly before he is appointed as the Chief Minister

8) Consider the following statements regarding the amendment to “federal structure of the Indian polity”

1. It can be amended by a special majority of the Parliament.
2. The consent of half of the state legislatures by a simple majority is also required for amendment.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

9) The lowering of Bank Rate by the Reserve Bank of India leads to

1. More liquidity in the market
2. Less liquidity in the market
3. Mobilization of more deposits by commercial banks

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

10) What is the correct sequence of occurrence of the following Water bodies in South-East Asia as one proceeds from North to South?

1. Sea of Japan
2. South China Sea
3. Yellow Sea
4. East China Sea

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- a. 2 - 4 - 3 - 1
- b. 1 - 3 - 4 - 2
- c. 1 - 2 - 3 - 4

d. 4 - 3 - 2 - 1

Answers

1. c

- **Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD)** plans to launch an ambitious Rs. 1.5 lakh crore EQUIP project **to improve the quality and accessibility of higher education over the next five years.**
- EQUIP stands for the Education Quality Upgradation and Inclusion Programme and was crafted by ten committees led by experts within the government.
- It aims to improve access to higher education, especially for underserved communities and to improve the gross enrolment ratio.
- It also improves teaching and learning processes by building educational infrastructure, improve the quality of research and innovation.

2. b

- Stipulating certain conditions, the Standing Committee of the **National Board for Wildlife (NBWL)** has granted clearance to five limestone mines on private land spread over 100 hectares within 10 km of the **Gangaikondan Spotted Deer Sanctuary in Tirunelveli, Tamilnadu.**

3. b

- NBWL is a **statutory organization** constituted under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
- It is chaired by the **Prime Minister.**
- It is **advisory** in nature and advises the Central Government on framing policies and measures for conservation of wildlife in the country.
- **No alteration of boundaries in national parks and wildlife sanctuaries can be done without approval of the NBWL.**

4. a

- A group of researchers has discovered a tenth species of the vine snake of genus *Ahaetulla* after a gap of more than a century.
- Before this discovery, there were nine species of vine snakes reported from the country.
- The *Ahaetulla laudankia*, the newly-discovered snake, was first spotted by researchers in **Simlipal Biosphere Reserve** near Lulung in Odisha.

5. d

- Major objective of waste management is to lessen the waste thus aiming at the ideal system.
- In order to attain this objective, it is imperative to:
 1. Avoid the generation of waste
 2. Promote reuse of waste
 3. Promote biological recovery of waste and recycling of materials
 4. Promote energy use of waste not suited for recycling
- 5. Ensure that the treatment and disposal of waste does not cause any harmful impacts.

6. a

7. d

8. c

- Federal structure of the Indian polity: The Constitution of India establishes a strong Centre by showering all-important subjects to the Centre as per the Union List.
- The State Governments have limited powers while largely being dependent on the Centre.
- Especially, the States are dependent on the Centre financially. The States have to work in close cooperation with the Centre.
- This has led to the contention that the Indian constitution is federal in form but unitary in spirit.

9. a

- When RBI lowers the bank rate, the cost of borrowing for banks lowers and thus credit volume gets increased leading to an increase in supply of money.

- Thus, decrease in Bank rate reflects loosening of RBI monetary policy.

10. b

28-05-2019

1) Operation Safed Sagar is associated with which of the following?

- a. Disaster Relief
- b. Coastal Cleaning
- c. Kargil war
- d. None of the above

2) With reference to AKASH Missile, consider the following statements:

1. It is a medium range air-to-air defence missile.
2. It was developed as part of the Integrated Guided-Missile Development Programme (IGMDP).

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

3) Which of the following countries is/are *not* the members of BIMSTEC?

1. Maldives
2. Afghanistan
3. Vietnam
4. China
5. Thailand

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a. All except 1 and 5
- b. All except 3 and 4
- c. All except 5
- d. All

4) Consider the following statements:

1. It is situated in the flood plains of River Brahmaputra.
2. It harbors the highest density of Rhino in the world.
3. It harbours second highest concentration of Rhino in Assam after Kaziranga National Park.

Identify the wildlife Sanctuary that correctly matches with the above description:

- a. Dampa Wildlife Sanctuary
- b. Orang Wildlife Sanctuary
- c. Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary
- d. Pakke Wildlife Sanctuary

5) Consider the following statements about the administration of Lord Ripon

1. The controversial Ilbert Bill was introduced during his period
2. Hunter commission for Education was set up during his period
3. The Fraser Commission, also known as Police Reforms Commission, was set up during his period

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

6) Consider the following statements:

1. All the residents of the village are the members of Gram Sabha.
2. Gram Panchayat is financially accountable to the Zilla parishad.
3. Gram Panchayat works are approved by the Zilla Parishad.

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

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 2 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3
- c. Nitrogen dioxide
- d. Nitrogen Monoxide

7) Consider the following statements

1. Snakes cannot survive generally in places where the ground stays frozen year round so that there are no snakes north of the Arctic Circle or in Antarctica.
2. Penguins are not found near the Equator as all penguin species are native to the Southern Hemisphere.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

8) Consider the following statements with reference to Buddhist literature

1. The earliest Buddhist works were written in Pali language
2. There were three branches of Buddhist literature-Jatak, Pitak and Nikaya.
3. Sanskrit was the main language used by Indian Mahayana Buddhists

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

9) The most common emission from the production of geothermal energy is

- a. Hydrogen sulfide
- b. Nitrous oxide

10) Which of the following powers is *not* enjoyed by the Indian President?

- a. Absolute veto
- b. Qualified Veto
- c. Suspensive Veto
- d. Pocket veto

Answers

1. c
 - **Operation Safed Sagar** is the air operations conducted during the **Kargil war 1999**.
2. b
 - The DRDO recently test-fired the new version of the Akash **surface-to-air** defense missile. (AKASH – MK -1S).
 - Akash is the medium range multi-target engagement capable supersonic missile with a range of around 25 km and up to the altitude of 18,000 meters.
 - The missile uses high-energy solid propellant for the booster and ramjet-rocket propulsion for the sustainer phase.
 - The missile system is said to be highly mobile.
 - Akash was developed as part of the Integrated Guided-Missile Development Programme (IGMDP) other than Nag, Agni, Trishul, and Prithvi missiles.
3. c
 - The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is a regional organization comprising seven **Member States** lying in the littoral and adjacent areas of the Bay of Bengal constituting a contiguous regional unity.
 - This sub-regional organization came into being on 1997 through the **Bangkok Declaration**.
 - It constitutes seven Member States: five deriving from South Asia,

including **Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka**, and two from Southeast Asia, including **Myanmar and Thailand**.

4. c

- Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary is situated in the flood plains of River Brahmaputra.
- It harbors the highest density of Rhino in the world and second highest concentration of Rhino in Assam after Kaziranga National Park.
- Dampa WLS – Mizoram
- Pakke WLS – Arunachal Pradesh
- Orang is not a designated wildlife sanctuary. It is a designated **National Park** (Rajiv Gandhi Orang NP).

5. b

- Lord Ripon remained India's Viceroy from 1880-84.
- This liberal politician is known for many reforms in the internal administration of India.
- The most important events during this time were as follows:
 1. The Vernacular Press Act was repealed in 1882
 2. A Resolution in 1882 set off the institution of local self-government in India.
 3. Hunter Commission came in 1882 for the purpose of education reforms.
 4. The age for entry in the Civil Services was once again raised to 21 years.
 5. The First factory Act was enacted in 1881
 6. Introduction of Ilbert Bill in severely compromised state.
 7. In **1902-03**, a Police Commission was established for the Police reforms under Sir Andrew Frazer.

6. a

- Anyone living in the area, who is an adult, that is **18 years old** or more, is a member of Gram Sabha.

7. d

- The European common adder, or European viper, a serpent often mentioned in works of

literature, is a stout-bodied snake that is widely distributed across Europe and Asia.

- It even ranges north of the Arctic Circle in Norway.
- The Galápagos penguin (*Spheniscus mendiculus*) is a penguin endemic to the Galápagos Islands.
- It is the only penguin that lives north of the equator in the wild.

8. d

- While the earliest Buddhist texts were orally composed and transmitted in Middle Indo-Aryan languages called Prakrits; Sanskrit gradually became the main language of Buddhist scriptures and scholasticism in India mirroring its rise as political and literary lingua franca of the Indian subcontinent.
- Sanskrit Buddhist literature refers to Buddhist texts composed in classical Sanskrit or Buddhist Hybrid Sanskrit.
- Sanskrit was the main language used by Indian Mahayana Buddhists and most major Mahayana sutras were composed in this language.
- The prominent Buddhist canon includes Tripitaka or three baskets. Other Buddhist literature includes Jatakas, Mahavamsa, Bodhivamsa etc.

9. a

- Open-loop systems emit hydrogen sulfide, carbon dioxide, ammonia, methane, and boron.
- Hydrogen sulfide, which has a distinctive “rotten egg” smell, is the most common emission.

10. b

- The President of India is vested with three—absolute veto, suspensive veto and pocket veto.
- There is no qualified veto in the case of Indian President; it is possessed by the American President.

29-05-2019

1) Valai Island, sometimes seen in the news recently is located in which of the following regions?

- a. Gulf of Kutch
- b. Lakshadweep
- c. Gulf of Mannar
- d. Andaman & Nicobar Islands

2) Consider the following statements with respect to National Small Industries Corporation Limited (NSIC)

1. Its mission is to promote and support Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Sector by providing integrated support services.
2. It works under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME).

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

3) With reference to the Ranges of Himalayas, Consider the following features

1. It is also known as Inner Himalayas, Central Himalayas or Himadri.
2. With an average elevation of 6100 metre above mean sea level, this is the loftiest and continuous mountain range of the World.
3. The folds in this range are asymmetrical with steep south slope and gentle North Slope.

Which of the following ranges is rightly described by the given above features?

- a. Shivalik Ranges
- b. Greater Himalayas
- c. Purvanchal Himalayas

- d. Karakoram Ranges

4) The 'Coral Triangle' is a marine area located in the region of

- a. Maldives-Lakshadweep and Gulf of Mannar
- b. Western Pacific ocean
- c. Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- d. South Indian ocean

5) With reference to the Solar Insolation, Consider the following factors

1. The transparency of the atmosphere
2. The angle of inclination of the sun's rays
3. The length of the day
4. The rotation of Earth on its axis

Which of the given above factors affect the intensity of solar Insolation?

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

6) If the Prime Minister is a member of Rajya Sabha

- a. He/She can make statements only in the Rajya Sabha
- b. He/She cannot speak on the Budget discussion in the Lok Sabha
- c. He/She cannot vote towards his party's favour in a no-confidence motion
- d. He/She must become a member of the Lok Sabha within six months after taking charge as the prime minister

7) Which of the following features are envisaged as the bulwarks of the Indian Constitution?

1. Election Commission of India
2. Comptroller and Auditor-General of India

3. Union Public Service Commission
4. State Public Service Commission

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

8) With reference to the Kyasanur Forest Disease, consider the following statements

1. It is a viral disease which spread through the ticks on monkeys.
2. It has been detected recently in the foothills of Eastern Himalayas.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

9) For organizing which Satyagraha Vallabhai Patel was conferred the title of ‘Sardar’?

- a. Individual Satyagraha
- b. Kheda Satyagraha
- c. Bardoli Satyagraha
- d. Dandi Salt Satyagraha

10) The Traditional Drum named as “KA BOM”, is associated with which one of the following North-East Indian tribal community?

- a. Apatani
- b. Hajong
- c. Angami
- d. Khasis

Answers

1. c

- The invasive **Kappaphycus alvarezii** seaweed, which smothers and kills coral reefs, has spread its wings to coral reef areas in **Valai island in the Gulf of Mannar (GoM)** and set to invade new coral colonies in the marine national park.

2. c

- National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC), is an ISO 9001-2015 certified Government of India Enterprise under Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME).
- NSIC has been working to promote aid and foster the growth of micro, small and medium enterprises in the country.

3. b

4. b

- The Coral Triangle is a marine area located in the western Pacific Ocean.
- It includes the waters of Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Timor Leste and Solomon Islands.

5. d

- Solar insolation is a measure of solar radiation energy received on a given surface area in a given time.
- The amount of insolation received at the surface of the Earth is controlled by the angle of the sun, the state of the atmosphere, altitude, and geographic location.
- Moreover this insolation also gets affected by sunspots and effects of atmosphere such as absorption, scattering and reflection.

6. c

- Only the Members of Lok Sabha can participate in the voting of No confidence Motion.

7. d

8. a

- Kyasanur Forest Disease – named after the forest in Karnataka where it was first detected, also known as monkey fever – is caused by the Kyasanur Forest Disease virus, a member of the Flaviviridae virus family.

- The disease spreads through the bite of ticks called Haemaphysalis Spinigera. Infected monkeys serve as blood meal for these ticks, which in turn bite humans.
- The disease was first detected in the Kyasanur forest area of Karnataka's Shimoga district in 1957, when it killed 70 people and a large number of monkeys.
- The disease is considered endemic to the state as well as to Tamil Nadu and Kerala, although there have been findings of Kyasanur Forest Disease antibodies in animals in the Kutch region of Gujarat, parts of West Bengal and in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

9. c

- The Bardoli Satyagraha of 1928, in Gujarat, India during the period of the British Raj, was a major episode of civil disobedience and revolt in the Indian Independence Movement.
- The movement was eventually led by Vallabhbhai Patel, and its success gave rise to Patel becoming one of the main leaders of the independence movement.
- While Patel credited Gandhi's teachings and the farmers' undying resolve, people across the nation recognized his vital leadership.
- It was women of bardoli who bestowed the title Sardar for the first time, which in Gujarati and most Indian languages means Chief or Leader.

10. d

- Ka Bom is a musical instrument.
- It is a traditional drum of Meghalaya.
- It belongs to the Khasi tribe.
- PM Modi even tried playing the drum and complemented its rhythm.

30-05-2019

1) Consider the following statements with respect to FASTags

1. No bank is pre-assigned to the FASTag at the time of purchase by customer from a Point-of-Sale or Online.
2. It will be issued only by the 22 certified banks through various channels such as

Point-of-Sale at NH toll plazas, selected bank branches, etc.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

2) Consider the following statements with respect to Padma Awards

1. All citizens can make nominations/recommendations to Padma awards including self-nomination.
2. The award will not be conferred posthumously.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

3) Consider the following statements with respect to World Environment Day (WED)

1. It is the United Nations day for encouraging worldwide awareness and action to protect our environment.
2. The theme for the year 2019 is "Plastic Pollution".
3. India is the global host country for the year 2019.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

4) How is Bharat Ratna different from Padma Awards?

1. The recommendations for Bharat Ratna are made by the Prime Minister to the President of India whereas in case of Padma awards, even self-nomination can be made.
2. It is not mandatory that Bharat Ratna should be awarded every year whereas Padma awards are conferred annually.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

5) "Hawa Aane De" which was released recently by the Ministry of Environment and Forest refers to?

- a. Action plan for Pangolin Protection
- b. Awareness Theme Song
- c. Adaptation & Mitigation Fund
- d. Environmental duties of every Citizen

6) With reference to the Multi-National Pharmaceutical companies, the term "Evergreening" indicates to

- a. A process by which patents are extended without any enhancement in therapeutic efficiency of the drug
- b. Scientific methodology followed by a company to manufacture biologically safer drugs
- c. Drugs manufactured with the help of plant products
- d. A unique drug which doesn't have any competitor in the global market

7) Which of the following countries are *not* the members of Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)?

1. Iran

2. Myanmar

3. Iraq

4. Pakistan

5. Somalia

Select the correct answer from the codes given below

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

8) Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) are organic chemical substances and carbon-based substances. Once they are released into the environment, what will be the consequences?

1. They remain intact exceptionally for long periods of time.
2. They become widely distributed throughout the environment as a result of natural processes involving soil and water but not in the air.
3. They accumulate in the fatty tissue of living organisms including humans, and are found at higher concentrations at higher levels in the food chain.
4. They will become toxic to both humans and wildlife.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

9) With reference to the "Ramosi Uprising", Consider the following statements

1. It was started in the peaceful manner against the British's failure to take up the anti-famine measures.
2. It was a peasant revolt led by Vasudev Balwant Phadke around the Satara area of the Maharashtra region.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

10) The Indian Standard Time that is 82.5°E degree longitude is passing through which of the following states in India?

- Uttar Pradesh**
- Madhya Pradesh**
- Chhattisgarh**
- Odisha**
- Telangana**
- Andhra Pradesh**

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
- 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
- 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 only
- 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6

Answers

- NHAI FASTag is a '**bank-neutral**' FASTag
- (i.e.) No bank is pre-assigned to the FASTag at the time of purchase by customer from a Point-of-Sale or online and offers the flexibility to customer to link the FASTag with their existing bank account by using My FASTag Mobile app, currently available on Google Play Store.
- FASTags are **now available on e-commerce platform Amazon.**
- These were earlier launched by Indian Highways Management Company Limited (IHMCCL), a company promoted by NHAI, in January 2019.
- This online sale initiative is an important achievement for IHMCCL and will ensure easy availability of FASTag at the doorsteps of the customers.
- Currently FASTags are **also** being issued by 22 certified banks through various channels such as Point-of-Sale at NH toll plazas, selected bank branches, etc.
- a
- The Padma Awards are one of the highest civilian honours of India announced **annually** on the eve of Republic Day.
- The award is given in three categories, namely,

 - Padma Vibhushan for exceptional and distinguished service;
 - Padma Bhushan for distinguished service of a high order; and
 - Padma Shri for distinguished service.

- The award is normally not conferred posthumously.
- However, **in highly deserving cases, the Government could consider giving an award posthumously.**
- a
- World Environment Day is the United Nations day for encouraging worldwide awareness and action to protect our environment.
- The theme for 2019 is "**Air pollution**".
- China** is the global host country for the year 2019.
- c
- Bharat Ratna is the highest civilian award of the country.
- It is awarded in recognition of exceptional service/performance of the highest order in any field of human endeavour.
- It is treated on a different footing from Padma Award.
- The recommendations for Bharat Ratna are made by the Prime Minister to the President of India.
- No formal recommendations for Bharat Ratna are necessary.

3. The number of Bharat Ratna Awards is restricted to a maximum of three in a particular year.
- The Padma Awards are one of the highest civilian honours of India announced **annually** on the eve of Republic Day.
 - It is also **not mandatory** that Bharat Ratna be awarded every year.

5. b

- The Theme Song "Hawa Aane De" was recently released by the MoEFCC on this year's World Environment Day theme, **Air Pollution**.

6. a

- Evergreening is a process whereby patents are extended without any enhancement in the therapeutic efficiency of the drug.
- This was also done in order to increase access of the public to patented drugs, by avoiding unnecessary protection to the inventors.

7. d

- IORA, formerly IOR-ARC (Association for Regional Cooperation) is an international organization with 21 member states.
- The group came into being in March 1995 in Mauritius.

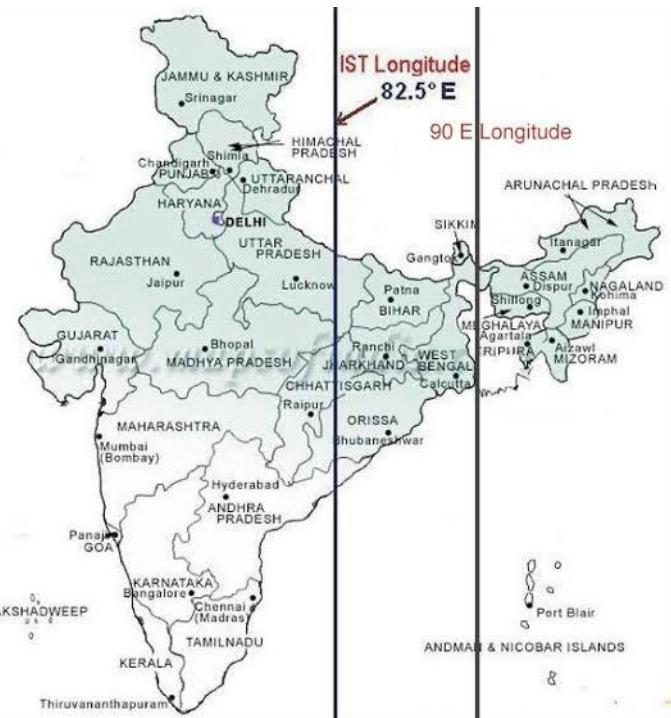
8. c

- They become widely distributed throughout the environment as a result of natural processes involving **Soil, Water and Air**.

9. b

- Ramosi Uprising was a peasant revolt (1877-1887; Maharashtra) against the British failure to take up anti-famine measures.
- It was led by **Vasudev Balwant Phadke**.
- It was protested in the violent manner not in the peaceful manner.

10. c

**31-05-2019**

1) Consider the following statements with respect to Population Research Centres (PRCs)

- Its mandate is to provide critical research based inputs related to the Health and Family Welfare Programs and Policies at the national and state levels.
- They were established by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

2) Which among the following is/are the available/proposed measures to address the Non Performing Assets (NPAs) menace in our economy?

- Debt Recovery Tribunal

2. SARFAESI Act
3. Benami Transactions Act
4. Strategic Debt Restructuring

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

3) Which one of the following state shares the border with least states in India?

- a. Tripura
- b. Jammu and Kashmir
- c. Sikkim
- d. Manipur

4) Consider the following statements with respect to the Rajya Sabha

1. The states of India have unequal representation in the Rajya Sabha.
2. All the seven Union Territories of India have equal representation in the Rajya Sabha.
3. The President can nominate two members from Anglo-Indian Community if the community is not adequately represented in the Rajya Sabha.

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

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

5) In India, the Direct Election is carried out for which of the following constitutional posts?

1. The President
2. The Vice President

3. The Members of Lok Sabha
4. The Members of State Legislative Council
5. The Members of Gram Panchayat

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

6) The lithosphere is the composition of

- a. Upper Mantle and Lower Mantle
- b. Lower Crust and Outer core
- c. Crust and Uppermost Mantle
- d. Inner Mantle and the Outer Core

7) Consider the following statements regarding 'Estuaries'

1. It forms a transition zone between hilly environments and river environments
2. It is the most productive natural habitats among others in the Earth.
3. Mostly it is under threat from human activities such as pollution and overfishing.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

8) With reference to the concept of Vertical Farming, which of the following will be the advantages of this concept?

1. Under this farming the crops will be safe from extreme weather occurrences such as droughts and floods.

2. This concept will reduce the use of traditional fertilizers as well as chemical pesticides.
3. In vertical farming more crops can be grown in a small land area.
4. Vertical farms use more water by depending on hydroponics or aeroponics.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

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

9) Consider the following statements regarding 'coral bleaching'.

1. It occurs when coral polyps expel zooxanthellae that live inside their tissues.
2. Increase in sea surface temperature is the only cause for coral bleaching.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

10) Which one of the following region has the highest annual range of temperature?

- a. Savannah climate
- b. Siberian climate
- c. China climate
- d. Hot Desert climate

Population Research Centres (PRCs) spread over 17 major States/UTs, with the mandate to provide, inter alia, critical research based inputs related to the Health and Family Welfare programs and policies at the national and state levels.

- The PRCs are autonomous in nature and administratively under the control of their host University/Institutions.
 - These PRCs were established to undertake research projects relating to family planning, demographic research and biological studies & qualitative aspect of population control, with a view to gainfully utilize the feedback from these research studies for plan formulation, strategies and modifications of ongoing schemes.
 - Autonomous in their functioning, these PRCs are provided 100 percent central assistance in the form of grant-in-aid on a year-to year basis.
2. a
3. c
4. c
5. a
6. c
7. b
8. b
9. a
10. b

Answers

1. a

- **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW)** has established the network of 18