



**IAS PARLIAMENT**  
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## MONTHLY PRESTORMING

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**Shankar IAS Academy™**  
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**01-09-2018**

1. Consider the following Constitutional Provisions

1. Directive Principles of State Policy
2. Fundamental Duties
3. Fundamental Rights

Which of these has/ have provided for establishing a Uniform Civil Code in India?

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

2. Consider the following statements about Leptospirosis

1. It is of fungal origin
2. The disease is highly contagious in flood-affected areas
3. It is one of the diseases covered under the Universal Immunization Programme

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

3. Consider the following statements about the term 'Hindu Undivided Family' which was in news

1. It is defined under the Income Tax Act of 1961
2. It is a separate tax entity which is officially recognized and approved under the Income-tax Law

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

4. Consider the following statements about 'Project- 75 India'

1. It seeks to build six advanced submarines with air-independent propulsion (AIP) technology
2. All the submarines will be nuclear-powered
3. They will be manufactured in India through Transfer of Technology

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

5. Consider the following statements about Nilgiri Tahr

1. It is endemic to the state of Karnataka
2. The IUCN status of the animal is 'Endangered'
3. The spread of invasive flora such as wattle and pine has been a growing threat to this species

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

6. Consider the following statements about South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)

1. Afghanistan, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh are founding members of this organisation
2. Decisions at all levels are taken on the basis of unanimity.

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

7. Consider the following statements about Vostok-2018

1. It will be the largest ever military exercise conducted by Russia since the cold war

2. The objective of this exercise is to enhance the maritime relations of Russia and the NATO countries

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

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

- 1. It is a proposed free trade agreement between members of ASEAN and SAARC
- 2. RCEP provides only for trade in goods and not for services.

Which of the statement(s) is/are true?

- e. 1 only
- f. 2 only
- g. Both 1 and 2
- h. Neither 1 nor 2

9. Consider the following statements about COSMOS-AzTEC-1 which was in news recently

- 1. It is a monster galaxy which was recently discovered by the Atacama Large Millimeter/sub millimeter Array (ALMA), Chile.
- 2. The rate of star formation in monster galaxies is very slow compared to normal galaxies.

Which of the statement(s) is/ are *not* true?

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

10. Consider the following statements about National Skill Development Corporation

- 1. It is the designated implementation agency of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana.
- 2. It has been established through partnership of the Central and State governments only

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

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

## Answers

1. b

Article 44 of the Directive Principles of State Policy states that 'The State shall endeavor to secure for citizens a **uniform civil code** throughout the territory of India.'

2. b

- Leptospirosis is caused by Bacteria of the genus *Leptospira*.
- The bacteria can be transmitted via exposure to contaminated water or soil or direct contact with reservoir hosts like wild or domestic animal. With the recent floods, there is increased reporting of Leptospirosis cases in Kerala.
- It is not part of the Universal Immunization Programme.

3. b

- A Hindu undivided family or HUF is a legal term defined in the Hindu Marriage Act.
- An HUF is a separate tax entity under the provisions of Section 2(31) of the IT Act
- Therefore, deductions (such as under Section 80) or exemptions allowed under the tax laws can be claimed by HUF, separately from that of the individuals.

4. c

- All the sub-marines are diesel-electric powered
- India's state-owned warship builders such as Mazagon Dock, Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers and order-starved private yards such as L&T and Reliance Naval are expected to vie for the contract.
- The four submarine-makers will have to align with a domestic warship builder and

manufacture locally through transfer of technology.

5. b

It is endemic to the Nilgiris in Tamil Nadu and Kerala

6. b

- SAARC was founded by the seven States of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, the Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka in 1985.
- Afghanistan became a member of SAARC in 2007

7. a

- Vostok-2018 exercise is being conducted in response to the growing tensions of Russia with NATO and West countries and as a show of deterrence to the U.S.
- Forces from China and Mongolia will also take part.

8. d

- It is an agreement between the 10 ASEAN Member States and six ASEAN FTA partners.
- The member States are Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, Philippines, Thailand, Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Brunei.
- The six ASEAN FTA partners are Australia, People's Republic of China, India, Japan, Republic of Korea, and New Zealand.
- The RCEP negotiation includes: trade in goods, trade in services, investment, economic and technical cooperation, intellectual property, competition, dispute settlement, e-commerce, small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and other issues.

9. b

Monster galaxies or starburst galaxies form stars at a speed of 1000 times higher than the star formation rate in our Galaxy.

10. a

The National Skill Development Corporation India (NSDC) was setup as a one of its kind, Public Private Partnership Company, with the primary mandate of catalysing the skills landscape in India.

**03-09-2018**

1. Consider the following statements about Brown-antlered deer also known as the 'Dancing Deer'.

- 1. It is a Schedule - I animal under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972
- 2. It is endemic to the states of Assam and Manipur

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

2. Consider the following statements about Atal Tinkering Labs

- 1. These are dedicated workspaces with access to 3D Printers, Robotics, Internet of Things (IOT)
- 2. Only government and government- aided schools are eligible for establishing Atal Tinkering labs
- 3. A grant of 20 lakh is provided to schools from the central government for setting up the labs

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

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

3. Consider the following statements about Higgs Boson

- 1. It is responsible for conferring mass on matter
- 2. It was first discovered by the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) through the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) experiment

Which of the given statement(s) is/ are **not** true?

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

4. Consider the following statements about FDI flows in India

1. Singapore and Mauritius alone accounts for around 61 per cent of total FDI came into India
2. The 'Investment Trends Monitor (ITM) is a flagship report of World Bank
3. According to the ITM, India is the topmost destination for greenfield capital investment

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

5. Consider the following statements about Chloropyrifos which was in news recently

1. It is a organophosphorous insecticide which has large presence in Dal Lake, Kashmir known for large-scale fruit- cultivation
2. Bioremediation technique cannot be used on Chloropyrifos

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

6. Consider the following statements about India Post Payment Banks

1. It is a public sector company with limited private ownership
2. The payment bank will be governed by RBI
3. Instead of ATM cards, IPPB will issue QR code base bio-metric cards

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

7. CARB- X was in news recently. Consider the following statements in this context.

1. It is the world's largest public-private partnership devoted to development of new antibiotics to combat the most dangerous drug-resistant bacteria
2. The Centre for Cellular and Molecular Platforms (C-CAMP) of India recently joined this initiative

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

8. Consider the following statements about Doppler Radar

1. It can provide area specific rain and storm warnings which are beneficial for disaster management and emergency response.
2. It was developed by DRDO

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

9. Consider the following statements about Central sector interest subsidy (CSIS)

1. Under this Scheme, Interest Subsidy is given on Education Loan taken from the Scheduled Banks even after the completion of moratorium period
2. The maximum loan amount is 7.5 lakh rupees
3. It is given to all students belonging to socially and educationally backward classes

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

10. Which of the following rivers in Kerala is/ are West-flowing?

1. Pampa
2. Bharatapuzha
3. Pambar
- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. 1 and 2 only
- d. 1 and 3 only

## Answers

1. a

- They are found only in Manipur's Bishnupur district (Loktak lake)
- It is an Endangered species

2.c

- These ATLs are dedicated innovation workspaces where do-it-yourself (DIY) kits on latest technologies like 3D Printers, Robotics, Internet of Things (IOT), Miniaturized electronics are installed using a grant of Rs 20 Lakhs from the government so that students from Grade VI to Grade XII can tinker with these technologies and learn to create innovative solutions using these technologies.

3. d

- Higgs Boson is a particle which is responsible for mass, without which there would be no gravity and no universe. Hence, it is known as the 'God's Particle'
- Recently scientists observed the decay of Higgs Boson into bottom- quarks at the LHC

4. b

Investment Trends Monitor (2018) is a series issued by UNCTAD

5. a

E.Coli (EC1) and Pseudomonas fluorescens (PF1) are found to be highly efficient in biodegrading Chloropyrifos into simpler and non-toxic chemicals.

6. b

The India Post Payments Bank is a public sector company under the department of posts and ministry

of communication where the Indian government holds 100 per cent equity.

7. c

The Centre for Cellular and Molecular Platforms (C-CAMP), a Department of Biotechnology initiative, has been selected as a CARB-X Accelerator for projects funded by CARB-X.

8. a

It was developed by Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) based on the indigenous technology provided by ISRO.

9. b

- Under this Scheme Interest Subsidy is given **during** the moratorium period i.e., Course period plus one year on Education Loan taken from the Scheduled Banks
- It is given to students belonging to economically weaker sections whose annual parental income is up to Rs. 4.5 Lakh from all sources.

10. c

Pambar is a East- flowing river that originates in Idukki, Kerala

## 04-09-2018

1. Consider the following statements about IOWave18

1. It is an intergovernmental conference on Conservation of Oceans and its Resources
2. It is held under the aegis of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

2. Consider the following statements

1. High seas refer to spaces beyond national jurisdictions and do not belong to any country in particular

2. The high seas are regulated by the Convention on the Law of the Sea adopted by the United Nations

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

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

**3. Assertion (A):** The occurrence of tropical cyclones are highest in the equatorial region.

**Reason (R):** Presence of Coriolis force is essential for tropical cyclones to occur

Choose the correct alternative

- a. Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- b. Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
- c. A is true but R is false
- d. A is false but R is true

4. Consider the following statements about Rapid Trident

1. It is an annual military exercise conducted by members of NATO
2. It is being held in response to the Russia's Vostok exercise

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

5. Consider the following statements about Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016

1. The rules are applicable not only for municipal areas but also for urban agglomerations, census towns, and notified industrial townships
2. It was issued by the Central Pollution Control Board in 2016

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

6. Consider the following statements with respect to Indus Water Treaty

1. The treaty completely bans India from using the Western rivers of the Indus river system
2. The PakulDul and Kalnai hydro projects of India are being built on the Beas River.

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

7. Consider the following statements

1. The role of an Independent Director is defined under the Companies Act, 2013
2. The officers of Private sector banks are considered Public Servants under the Prevention of Corruption Act

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

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

8. Consider the following statements about Flood-warning in India

1. The highest alert for rainfall warning is the 'Red Alert' and it is preceded by the 'Orange Alert' which calls for preparation of action during times of heavy rainfall
2. A rainfall of 3- 6 cm in 24 hours is considered 'Heavy' and of 7- 11 cm in 24 hours is considered 'Very Heavy'

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

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

9. Consider the following about 'CholaNaikar' tribe

- 1. They are found in the Wayand district of Kerala.
- 2. They speak a dialect of Tamil.
- 3. They largely depend on hunting and gathering.

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

10. Consider the following statements about AMRIT Deendayal programme

- 1. The objective of the programme is to make affordable all drugs, implants, surgical disposables that are not dispensed at free of cost by the hospitals
- 2. It is a sub-scheme under Ayushman Bharat

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

## Answers

1. b

- It is a major tsunami mock exercise being organised by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO
- NDRF battalions, Indian Navy, Indian Coast Guards, Army, and critical installations like nuclear power plants, port and harbours are also participating in the exercise

2. a

There is no International Convention which regulates the High seas till date. UN has recently started talks for framing a convention by 2020

3. d

- Almost all tropical cyclones form over regions more than 5 degrees of latitude away from the Equator and very few occur near the Equator. This is because presence of Coriolis force is essential for tropical cyclones to occur.
- The Coriolis force increases with an increase in latitude. Or, the closer to the Equator, the smaller the Coriolis force. As a result, tropical cyclones are generally not formed near the equator
- They are known as:
  - Cyclones in the Indian Ocean
  - Hurricanes in the Atlantic
  - Typhoons in the Western Pacific and the South China Sea
  - Willy-willies in Western Australia

4. b

It is a military exercise conducted by Ukraine along with the NATO allies

5. a

- The rules were issued by MoEFCC
- They extend to urban agglomerations, census towns, notified industrial townships, areas under the control of Indian Railways, airports, airbase, port and harbour, defence establishments, special economic zones, State and Central government organizations, places of pilgrims, religious & historical importance.

6. d

- India can use the Western rivers for non-consumptive needs such as irrigation, storage and even for electricity production. India has unrestricted access to the Eastern rivers (Ravi, Beas, Sutlej)
- 1000 MW PakulDul hydro project on river Chenab and 43 MW Lower Kalnai hydro project on Lower KalnaiNalla, a tributary of river Chenab, are being built

7. c

8. a

According to IMD

1. 'Heavy' rainfall - 7-11 cm in 24 hours
  2. 'Very Heavy' rainfall- 12-20 cm in 24 hours
9. c

They speak Canarese, a dialect of Kannada.

10. a

- AMRIT (Affordable Medicines and Reliable Implants for Treatment) is a programme of MoHFW to provide affordable life-saving cancer, cardiac drugs and medical disposables
- It was launched in November 2015

### 05-09-2018

1. Consider the following statements about Lokpal

1. Irrespective of the number of seats held in Lok Sabha, the leader of the single largest Opposition party can become a part of the Lokpal Selection Committee
2. The Lokpal has jurisdiction over all public servants including personnel from Armed Forces

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

2. Consider the following statements about Bedaquiline which was in news recently.

1. It is an injectible drug used in treating multidrug-resistant TB
2. WHO aims to replace all injectibles with a fully oral regimen for treating MDR - TB patients

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

3. Consider the following statements about 'SpyLite' which was in news recently

1. It is a mini unmanned aerial system which will be imported from the US by India.
2. It is a fully autonomus aerial system.
3. It can provide high- definition images in real time.

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

4. Consider the following statements about Banks Board Bureau

1. The board comprises of a Chairman, three ex-officio members and three expert- members
2. It is a statutory body set up under the Banking Regulation Act, 2017
3. The Board is responsible for appointing the Chairmen of Public Sector Banks

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

5. Consider the following statements

1. Bureau of Energy Efficiency is a statutary body under Ministry of Power.
2. It formulated Energy Conservation Building Code (ECBC)
3. The ECBC, 2018 rules are mandatory in India.

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

6. Consider the following statements about SWIFT system in Banking

1. It is a secure financial message carrier which facilitates interbank communication
2. It is owned by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
3. It is mandatory to integrate Core Banking systems of all banks with the SWIFT system.

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

7. Consider the following statements about Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016

1. Under IBC, either the creditor (banks) or the loaner (defaulter) can initiate insolvency proceedings.
2. The Code proposes two separate tribunals for individuals and companies respectively to oversee the process of insolvency resolution

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

8. Consider the following statements about the Banking Ombudsman Scheme

1. All commercial banks having 10 or more banking outlets must have an independent Internal Ombudsman (IO) to review customer complaints
2. The maximum tenure of the IO is five years and he/ she is eligible for reappointment.

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

1 only

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

9. Consider the following statements about Motor Vehicles Amendment Bill, 2017

1. The Bill seeks to cap the liability of the third party insurer for motor vehicle accidents for the first time
2. The Bill has a special provision for protecting Good Samaritans

Which of the statement(s) is/ are **not** true?

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

10. Consider the following statements about Model Code of Conduct (MCC)

1. These are guidelines provided in the Representation of People Act.
2. MCC comes into force immediately after the announcement of elections by the Election Commission.

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

## Answers

.1. d

- A leader of opposition must be from the party which has at least 10 per cent of seats in the Lok Sabha
- Lokpal does not have jurisdiction over Armed Forces

2. c

Bedaquiline was recently added to the fully oral regimen by WHO

3. b

It will be imported from Israel

4. a

- It is an autonomous recommendatory body that was created through executive action.

- It recommends names of persons to be appointed as top-level board members to the government which in turn may or may not appoint them.

5. a

ECBC is currently not mandatory in India. By December 2018, some states like Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh are expected to make the code mandatory.

6. b

The SWIFT is a global member-owned cooperative that is headquartered in Brussels, Belgium.

7. c

The Code proposes two separate tribunals to oversee the process of insolvency resolution, for individuals and companies: (i) the National Company Law Tribunal for Companies and Limited Liability Partnership firms; and (ii) the Debt Recovery Tribunal for individuals and partnerships

8. a

- The Internal Ombudsman Scheme of 2018 mandates banks to grant IO, a fixed term of three to five years, which cannot be renewed.
- The IO can be removed only with prior approval from RBI.

9. d

- The Bill caps the maximum liability for third party insurance in case of a motor accident at Rs 10 lakh in case of death and at five lakh rupees in case of grievous injury.
- The Bill also provides for (i) amending the existing categories of driver licensing, (ii) recall of vehicles in case of defects, (iii) protection of good samaritans from any civil or criminal action, and (iv) increase of penalties for several offences under the 1988 Act.

10. b

The code is provided by the Election Commission of India

**06-09-2018**

- Consider the following statements about Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats

- Both Project Tiger and Project Elephant are sub-components of this scheme

- It was recently made an open-ended scheme which would continue for an indefinite period

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

- Consider the following statements about Rafale

- It is a single-engine multi-role combat aircraft
- Rafale can carry out both air-to-ground as well as air-to-air attacks
- The aircraft is equipped with an on-board oxygen generation system (OBOGS)

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

- Consider the following statements about Palani hills which was in news recently

- They are the eastward extension of Western Ghats
- The tropical montane forests or Shola forests can be seen here
- It is home to Kota and Kurumba tribes

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

- Consider the following statements about Pink Bollworm

- Right from the introduction of Bt. Cotton, Pink Bollworm had been resistant to it
- Early sowing of Cotton will help prevent attacks of Pink Bollworm

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

- a. 1 only
  - b. 2 only
  - c. Both 1 and 2
  - d. Neither 1 nor 2
5. Consider the following statements about Mount Veniaminof
1. It is one of the largest and active volcanoes of the world located in Alaska
  2. It recently erupted after a gap of nearly fifty years
  3. Sudden explosions of the volcano could send ash above 20,000 feet and threaten international airplanes.

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true

- a. 1 and 2 only
  - b. 2 and 3 only
  - c. 1 and 3 only
  - d. 1, 2, 3
6. Consider the following statements with respect to Chief Justice of India
1. The salary, allowance, pension of CJI are charged upon Consolidated Fund of India
  2. The grounds and procedure for removal of CJI and other Supreme Court judges are one and the same

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

- a. 1 only
  - b. 2 only
  - c. Both 1 and 2
  - d. Neither 1 nor 2
7. 'KAZIND' is a joint military exercise between India and which of the following nations?
- a. Singapore
  - b. Kazakhstan
  - c. Kenya
  - d. New Zealand
- 8. Consider the following statements about Space Elevator
1. A Space Elevator is a planet-space transportation system with the help of cables thus, eliminating the need of rockets.
  2. The first-ever Space Elevator is built by China
- Which of the statement(s) is/ are **not** true?
- a. 1 only
  - b. 2 only
  - c. Both 1 and 2
  - d. Neither 1 nor 2
9. Consider the following statements about Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana
1. The overdraft facility under the scheme has been increased from Rs. 5000 to Rs. 10,000
  2. The scheme was recently extended for a year till 2019- 2020
  3. Around 70 per cent of the Jan Dhan accounts are held by women

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

10. Arrange the following European countries from North to South

1. Belarus
2. Ukraine
3. Romania
4. Bulgaria

Choose the correct alternative

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

## Answers

1. a

- The Centrally Sponsored Umbrella Scheme of Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats (CSS-IDWH) has been approved for continuation beyond the 12th Plan period from 2017-18 to 2019-20.
- The Scheme consists of Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger (CSS-PT), Development of Wildlife Habitats (CSS-DWH) and Project Elephant (CSS-PE).

2. b

- Rafale is a twin-engine medium multi-role combat aircraft.
- It is manufactured by the French company Dassault Aviation.

3. a

- The Paliyan are the original inhabitants who can be seen in the Palani hills
- The Kota tribes live in Nilgiris
- The Kurumba tribes inhabit the Western Ghats in Kerala

4. d

- Bt. Cotton was introduced in 2002. Pink Bollworm was seen to develop resistance to it only from 2014.
- Early sowing of cotton accelerated the attack of Pink Bollworms. The pink bollworm moths become active with rising humidity levels, and they breed both during May-June and July-August. Early-sown cotton acts as a host for eggs laid by the first-generation moths. These eggs become larva within 4-5 days and subsequently develop into moths within a month. Those moths, in turn, lay eggs again in July-August, leading to a renewed attack on the crop.

5. c

- The volcano erupted for several months in 2013. Other recent eruptions occurred in 2005 and between 1993 and 1995.
- The risk level was from yellow to orange. The colour designation indicates that sudden explosions could send ash above 20,000 feet (6,100 meters) and threaten international airplanes.

6. c

7. b

8. b

Japan is the first country to build a Space Elevator system which is set for the trial this month

9. a

It was recently made an indefinite scheme with no deadline

Around 52 per cent of the account holders are women

10. c



**07-09-2018**

1. Consider the following statements about Swachh Bharat Mission- Gramin

- The State Governments are free to frame their own mechanism for Open Defecation Free (ODF) verification of villages
- Sanitation is a subject in the Concurrent list
- The definition of ODF is same throughout the country

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

2. Consider the following statements about Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement (COMCASA)

1. With signing of COMCASA, India has signed all four foundational agreements that the US signs to facilitate interoperability between militaries and sale of high end technology.
2. The agreement comes into force immediately and will remain valid for 10 years

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

3. Consider the following statements about Kodagu

1. Brahmagiri Hills is located in the northern side of Kodagu
2. The Nagarhole National Park, a key conservation site of Tigers and Elephants, is also located here.

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

4. Consider the following statements about DRISHTI

1. It is an indigenously developed weather monitoring system installed at airports
2. It was developed by ISRO along with Indian Meteorological Organisation

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

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

5. Consider the following statements about State Legislative Assembly (SLA)

1. When a Chief Minister resigns, the Council of Ministers should also resign immediately
2. When an SLA is dissolved, all members of the house including the Speaker vacate their office

Which of the statement(s) is/ are **not** true?

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

6. Consider the following statements about Finance Commission

1. It is a constitutional body comprising of a chairman and four other members
2. It is appointed every four years to determine the financial relations between the Centre and States
3. It has all the powers of a civil court

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

7. Consider the following statements about Kepler telescope

1. It was jointly developed by NASA and ESA
2. It is a space-based telescope dedicated to finding planets which are almost earth-sized outside the Milky Way.
3. It has confirmed the existence of thousands of such planets.

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

8. Consider the following statements about FAME India scheme

1. The objective of the scheme is to encourage faster adoption of hybrid/ electric vehicles
2. The second- phase of the scheme is set to be lauched
3. It is under the aegis of Ministry of New and Renewable Energy

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

9. Consider the following statements with respect to Cassini spacecraft

1. Its findings were instrumental in the recent spotting of a high-altitude jet stream in the southern pole of Saturn
2. The Huygens which was part of Cassini was the first ever successful landing accomplished in Saturn's moon Titan

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

10. The 'Yogyakarta' Principles relate to which of the following?

- a. Part of Manusmriti which deals with principles of Dharma
- b. Human rights with respect to sexual orientation and gender identity
- c. Set of punishments given to outcasts in a society
- d. Set of rules followed by Jaina monks

## Answers

1. b

- Sanitation is a State subject

- The Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation has provided the definition of ODF in order to achieve uniformity. Accordingly, ODF means

(a) *No visible feces found in the environment/village; and*

(b) *Every house as well as public/community institutions using safe technology option for disposal offeces.*

- The Ministry also has provided guidelines for ODF verification and these are indicative only. States are free to frame their own mechanism based on the given guidelines.

2. b

The COMCASA is one of the four foundational agreements which US signs with its allies and close partners

India had signed only three of these four aggrements -

- General Security Of Military Information Agreement (GSOMIA) in 2002
- Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA) in 2016
- Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement (COMCASA) in 2018

The last one remaining is the Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement for Geo-spatial Cooperation (BECA).

The signing of COMCASA is likely to open the way for sales of more sensitive US military equipment to India.

COMCASA give Indian military access to function on high-end secured and encrypted communication equipment that are installed on US origin military platforms obtained by Indian Armed Forces such as the C-17, C-130 and P-8Is.

3. b

Brahmagiri Hills is located between the borders of Kodagu in north and Wayanad (Kerala) in the south and is home to Brahmagiri Wildlife Sanctury

4. d

- It is an indigenously developed runway visibility measuring mechanism to facilitate safe landing and take-off of aircraft in poor visibility conditions
- The Drishti field site system is completely designed and fabricated at CSIR's National Aerospace Laboratories, Bangalore

5. b

The Speaker's office represents the continuity in a House. The Speaker holds office from the date of his/her election till immediately before the first meeting of the Lok Sabha formed after the dissolution of the one to which he/she was elected.

6. c

It is appointed every five years

7. c

- It is solely part of NASA's Discovery Program
- Kepler mission is specifically designed to survey the region of the Milky Way galaxy (not outside it) to discover hundreds of Earth-sized and smaller planets in or near the habitable zone.

8. a

- It is a scheme of Ministry of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises
- It is aimed at incentivising all vehicle segments i.e. 2 Wheeler, 3 Wheeler Auto, Passenger 4 Wheeler Vehicle, Light Commercial Vehicles and Buses
- The first phase of the scheme will end by September 2018, in line with which the second phase is set to be launched

9. b

- With data from NASA's Cassini spacecraft, scientists have recently spotted a high-altitude jet stream with a hexagonal shape at Saturn's northern pole (not South), facilitated by the northern pole nearing summertime.
- Earlier, the Cassini had spotted a similar warm high-altitude vortex at Saturn's southern pole.

10. b

- The Yogyakarta Principles is a document about human rights in the areas of sexual orientation and gender identity.
- It is the outcome of an international meeting of human rights groups in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, in November 2006.
- It was mentioned by Justice R.F. Nariman in the recent Supreme Court verdict on decriminalising a part of Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code.

**08-09-2018**

1. Consider the following statements about Atal Pension Yojana

1. An assured monthly pension of Rs.1000 to 5000 is provided to the beneficiary from the age of 60 years according to the individual's contribution
2. It is administered by the Department of Posts
3. It replaced the Swavalamban scheme

Which of the statement(s) is/are true?

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

2. Consider the following statements about Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)

1. It is held under the aegis of the UNESCO
2. It carries out tests to evaluate the learning levels of students of 15 years of age in reading, mathematics and science.
3. India is set to participate in this exercise in 2018

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

3. Consider the following statements about YudhAbyas

1. It is an annual tri-Service amphibious exercise between India and US
2. It will be held as an outcome of the recent '2+2 Dialogue' between India and the U.S.

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

4. Consider the following statement(s) about HY-1C satellite

1. Its objective is to collect basic data for research on the global oceanic environment such as ocean colour, water temperatures, etc.
2. It is the first ever marine satellite launched by China

Which of the statement(s) is/are **not** true?

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

5. Consider the following statements with respect to Environmental Impact Assessment Notification (EIA), 2006.

1. Central government has to give clearance for all Category A and B projects
2. Projects coming under B2 category are exempt from having public hearing for obtaining clearance

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

6. Consider the following statements about Coral reefs

1. Coral reefs cannot live in shallow waters
2. Calcium Carbonate is an important compound which is responsible for giving colour to the corals
3. Coral bleaching occurs when there is a rise in water temperature

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

7. Consider the following statements about Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA)?

1. An ASHA is a trained worker who acts as an interface between the community and the public health system under the National Rural Health Mission
2. An ASHA worker must be a woman in the age group of 25 to 45 years only
3. ASHA will be the first port of call for any health related demands of deprived sections of the population

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

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

8. SLINEX refers to

- a. A Naval exercise between India and South Africa
- b. A Military exercise between India and New Zealand
- c. A Naval exercise between India and Sri Lanka
- d. A Military exercise between India and Nepal

9. Consider the following statements with respect to Section 377 of Indian Penal Code

1. The provision was completely struck down by the Supreme Court as it was found to be violative of Fundamental Rights guaranteed by the Constitution
2. The Mental Healthcare Act of 2017 states that Homosexuality cannot be treated as a kind of mental illness

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

10. Consider the following statements about National Electric Mobility Mission Plan (NEMMP) 2020

1. It aims to achieve sales of 6-7 million hybrid and electric vehicles year on year from 2020 onwards.

2. The Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid &) Electric Vehicles (FAME India) is part of NEMMP

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

## Answers

1. c

Atal Pension Yojana is administered by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).

2. b

- It is held every three years under the aegis of Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- India missed the application deadline for 2018 and hence it will participate only in the exercise in 2021

3. d

- It is an annual joint military exercise (between only the armies) of India and US
- The 14th edition of YudhAbyas will be conducted in Chaubatia, Uttrakhand in September, 2018. On the other hand, the first India-US 2+2 Dialogue was only recently held.

4. b

- HY-1A was the first marine satellite of China
- HY-1C is the third in such series of marine satellites of China launched to help improve understanding of maritime waters and climate change

5. b

Central Government gives clearance only for Category A projects while the State governments give approval for Category B projects

6. d

Coral reefs can survive only in shallow and clean waters which facilitate sunlight penetration essential for coral growth.

The algae Zooxanthellae is responsible for giving colour to the corals. Corals do not have colours of their own.

7. a

ASHA must primarily be a woman resident of the village married/ widowed/ divorced, preferably (not mandatory) in the age group of 25 to 45 years

8. c

SLINEX is a bilateral naval exercise between India and Sri Lanka

9. b

- The Court ruled that the Section would not apply only to consensual same-sex acts between homosexuals, heterosexuals, lesbians and other sexual minorities. It would continue to apply to bestiality and sexual acts without consent.
- The verdict on Sec 377 mentioned in regards with homosexuality that mental illness could not be determined on the basis of non-conformity with moral, social, cultural, or religious beliefs prevailing in a person's community.

10. c

- In regards with electric mobility, NITI Aayog recently submitted the 'Zero Emission Vehicles (ZEVs): Towards A Policy Framework' report during the Global Mobility Summit 'MOVE'.
- It highlighted that India can save about Rs 1.2-lakh crore of forex outgo towards oil imports every year by adopting electric 2-wheelers

## 10-09-2018

1. Consider the following statements about World Summit on Accreditation (WOSA-2018)

1. It is a biennial event conducted by the National Board of Accreditation (NBA), India
2. The summit will focus on the issues and opportunities in achieving Outcome-based Accreditation

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

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

2. Consider the following statements about 'Mobilise Your City (MYC)' which was seen in news recently.

1. It is an initiative of UN Climate
2. It aims to make transportation sustainable by implementing low-carbon transit solutions
3. Kochi, Nagpur, and Ahmedabad are the pilot cities selected in India for this programme
4. A grant of 3.5 million Euro will be given to the selected pilot cities

Which of the following above statement(s) is/are true?

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

3. Consider the following statements about Bonnethead Shark

1. It is found in the South Atlantic Ocean near Africa
2. It is the world's first species of omnivorous shark to be discovered

Which of the given statement(s) is/ are **not** true?

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

4. 'BirdLife International' was in news recently. Consider the following statements with respect to it.

1. It is an intergovernmental organisation that works on conservation of birds and their habitats
2. It recently held that Pix's Macaw, the Cryptic Treehunter, and the Poo-uli are among the bird species which became 'Critically Endangered' in this century.

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

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

- d. Neither 1 nor 2

5. Consider the following statements with respect to Preventive Detention

1. A person cannot be detained for a period of more than 6 months in case of a preventive detention
2. Article 22 (1) and (2) will not be available for a person arrested under the laws governing Preventive Detention

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

6. Consider the following statements about Paris Agreement

1. It aims to keep the global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre industrial levels and further limit it to 1.5 degrees celsius in the long run
2. The Agreement binds the Developed nations to help the Developing nations reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through financial aid

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

7. Consider the following statements about Sohrai and Khovar paintings

1. These are styles of folk paintings found in parts of Jharkhand
2. Sohrai refers to paintings done to decorate marriage chambers and Khovar refers to paintings done after the harvest season as an act of 'thanks-giving'
3. They are largely confined to domestic spaces and is mostly practised by women

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

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

8. The Dawn mission is

- A mission of NASA to study objects in the Kuiper belt
- A mission of ESA to observe the rings of Saturn
- A mission of NASA to study the protoplanets of the asteroid belt
- A mission of NASA to send a solar probe

9. Consider the following species

- Wattle
- Pine
- Lantana
- Parthenium
- Eupatorium

Which of the given species is/are found to be invasive in the Western Ghats region?

- 1, 2, 3, 4 only
- 1, 3, 4, 5 only
- 2, 3, 4, 5 only
- All of the above

10. Consider the following statements about International Sugar Organisation (ISO)

- It is the only worldwide forum for the exchange of views by major sugar producing, consuming and trading countries at an intergovernmental level.
- India signed the International Sugar Agreement (ISA) in 1992 but did not ratify it
- ISO strives to encourage increased demand for sugar, particularly for non-traditional uses.

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

- 1 and 2 only

## Answers

1. c

- The 4th World Summit on Accreditation (WOSA-2018) is happening in New Delhi from 7th to 9th September.
- It is a biennial event, and it was previously conducted in 2012, 2014 and 2016.
- The Summit will facilitate exchange of information on various challenges being faced during the transition between input-output based accreditation to outcome based accreditation
- WOSA is an opportunity for academia and the industry to explore avenues for future partnerships and to create an environment for open dialogue to facilitate mobility of students and professionals world-wide to gain international experience.
- The National Board of Accreditation (NBA) was established for periodic evaluations of technical institutions & programs according to the specified norms and standards as recommended by AICTE.

2. c

- The MYC is an initiative combining urban mobility objectives and climate considerations. It is part of an international initiative which is supported by the French and the German Governments.
- It was however launched at the 21st Conference of Parties (COP21) of United Nations Climate Change Conference held in Paris in 2015.
- Recently, India and France signed an implementation agreement on MYC.
- The MYC will support the 3 pilot cities Nagpur, Kochi and Ahmedabad in their efforts to reduce their Green House Gas (GHG) emissions related to urban transport.
- The MYC will provide technical assistance with a grant of €3.5 million for the three cities through French funding agency AgenceFrancaise de Developpement (AFD).

3. a

- It is found primarily in the North American shore and around the Gulf of Mexico

- It is the first-ever species of omnivorous shark to have been discovered. A recent study found that seagrass may make up 60% of a Bonnethead's diet.
4. d

- BirdLife International is an **International NGO** that strives to conserve birds, their habitats and global biodiversity. WIth 121 partners, it is one of the largest NGOs working for conservation of nature.
- It recently held that Pix's Macaw, the Cryptic Treehunter, and the Poo-uli are among the bird species which became '**Extinct**' in this century.

5. b

- A person cannot be retained for a period of more than **3 months** under Preventive Detention. The period can be further extended only based on the approval from an Advisory Board.
- Article 22-** Protection against arrest and detention in certain cases

(1) No person who is arrested shall be detained in custody without being informed, as soon as may be, of the grounds for such arrest nor shall he be denied the right to consult, and to be defended by, a legal practitioner of his choice

(2) Every person who is arrested and detained in custody shall be produced before the nearest magistrate within a period of twenty four hours of such arrest excluding the time necessary for the journey from the place of arrest to the court of the magistrate and no such person shall be detained in custody beyond the said period without the authority of a magistrate

- The protection offered under Article-22 is not available to an enemy alien, and a person detained under a preventive detention law.

6. a

- The Paris Agreement formally entered into force on November 4, 2016. It was facilitated by the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change)
- Under the Agreement, there are no binding goals. Member states determine their own "nationally determined contributions" which they may even withdraw from later.

7. b

**Khovar** refers to the decoration of the **marriage chambers**

**Sohrai** is the **harvest** painting on the mud houses, repairing it after the rains and offering a thanksgiving to the forces of Nature.

8. c

- Dawn is NASA's space probe to study the Asteroid belt. It was launched in September 2007
- It was majorly tasked to study two of the three known protoplanets of the asteroid belt Vesta and Ceres which when combined make up 45% of the mass of the main asteroid belt.
- The spacecraft is likely to run out of a key fuel known as hydrazine and will lose out on communication with earth between September and October, 2018.
- It will, however, remain in a silent orbit around Ceres for decades.

9. d

All the given species are invasive species and they are found to be rampant in the Western Ghats.

10. c

India ratified its membership of ISO in 1993.

The ISO is based in London. The 87 member states (based on data for 2016) of the ISO represent:

- 87% of world sugar production
- 68% of world sugar consumption
- 92% of world exports
- 40% of world imports

## 11-09-2018

- Consider the following statements about Pondicherry Shark

- Its conservation status is same as that of a tiger under the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972
- It is a Critically Endangered species according to the Red List of IUCN
- Conservation efforts for the species have been very difficult owing to the very less scientific information that is available

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

- 1 and 2 only

- b. 2 and 3 only  
 c. 1 and 3 only  
 d. 1,2 and 3
- a. 1 only  
 b. 2 only  
 c. Both 1 and 2  
 d. Neither 1 nor 2
2. Which of the following states in India share their border with Bangladesh?
1. Sikkim
  2. Assam
  3. Manipur
  4. Nagaland
- Select the answer using the codes given below
- a. 1 and 2 only
  - b. 2 only
  - c. 1 and 3 only
  - d. 3 and 4 only
3. Consider the following statements about Nomadic Elephant- 2018
1. 'Nomadic Elephant' is a biennial military exercise between India and Mongolia
  2. It aims to improve the tactical and technical skills in joint counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism operations in both rural and urban scenario.
- Which of the given statement(s) is/ are true?
- a. 1 only
  - b. 2 only
  - c. Both 1 and 2
  - d. Neither 1 nor 2
4. Consider the following statements with respect to Clemency Power
1. Section 433 of the Code of Criminal Procedure grants power to a state government to commute any sentence issued by a court except the death sentence.
  2. Article 161 of the Constitution gives power to the Governor of a state to pardon even the death sentence.
- Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?
5. Consider the following statements about International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
1. It works to bring voluntary, consensus-based, market-relevant International Standards that support innovation and provide solutions to global challenges.
  2. Coimbatore Railway Station is the first railway station in India to have received the ISO certificate
- Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?
- a. 1 only
  - b. 2 only
  - c. Both 1 and 2
  - d. Neither 1 nor 2
6. With respect to Heritage Irrigation Structures (HIS) tag, consider the following statements.
1. It is given by the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID)
  2. The objective behind the tag is to protect/preserve historical irrigation structures across the world which are at least 100 years old
  3. Structures with HIS tag are confined to the northern part of India in the Ganga river basin
- Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?
- a. 1 and 2 only
  - b. 2 and 3 only
  - c. 1 and 3 only
  - d. 1,2 and 3
7. HAL Tejas was in news recently. Consider the following statements in this context.
1. It recently demonstrated the process of mid-air refuelling by transferring.
  2. The IL-78 MKI tanker which was used for the transfer was indigenously built

Which of the statement(s) is/ are **not** true?

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

8. Consider the following statements about Indian Standards on Earthquake Engineering

- It provides for the seismic zone map for India which is divided into five zones according to
- the degree of intensity of earthquakes
- It is provided by the Bureau of Indian Standards

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

9. Consider the following statements about Sagarmatha Friendship-2

- It is a joint initiative to enhance road and rail connectivity between Nepal and China
- It is part of the OBOR project of China

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

10. Consider the following statements about 'Global Commission on the Economy and Climate'

- It is a body established under the UNFCCC
- The commission promotes investment in sustainable infrastructure as well as in forests and wetlands
- It also calls for mandatory climate risk disclosure for major investors and companies

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

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

## Answers

1. d

- It is a Schedule I animal of the Wildlife Protection Act like the tiger.
- The 'Pondicherry Shark' is on the verge of extinction.
- The species is very rare to be seen. The only scientific information available about the species comes from 20 specimens collected from fish markets across the Indo-Pacific region.
- It was recently spotted, for the third time in the East Godavari River Estuarine Ecosystem region after 2007 and 2016.
- Authorities suspect whether fishermen sell the fish whenever they trap it ignorant of its conservation status. Measures are on to bring down the trade so that more data could possibly be available.

2b

Assam, West Bengal, Tripura, Meghalaya, and Mizoram are the states which share their border with Bangladesh

3. b

It is an **annual** bilateral military exercise between India and Mongolia since 2006

4. d

Section 433 of IPC, gives the power to the appropriate government to commute:

- A sentence of death, for any other punishment provided by the Indian Penal Code, 1860;
- A sentence of imprisonment for life, for imprisonment for a term not exceeding fourteen years or for fine;
- A sentence of rigorous imprisonment, for simple imprisonment for any term to which that person might have been sentenced, or for fine;

- A sentence of simple imprisonment or fine.

However, such powers cannot be exercised unless a person had served at least **fourteen years** of imprisonment.

The Governor does not have the power to **pardon a death sentence**

5. a

- The HabibGanj railway station is the first to have got ISO certification in India
- ISO is headquartered at Geneva, Switzerland.

6. a

Sadarmattanicut across river Godavari in Nirmal district and PeddaCheruvu in Kamareddy district in Telangana (in the southern part of India) were recently recognised as Heritage Irrigation Structures.

7. b

The first ever mid-air refuelling of the indigenously developed light combat aircraft Tejas was successfully carried out recently. This placed India in an elite group of countries having air-to-air refuelling system for military planes.

However, the IL-78 MKI tanker used for the transfer was built by Russia.

8. b

There are only four zones ranging from Zone V (high intensity) to Zone II (low intensity).

9. d

- Sagarmatha Friendship-2 is a joint **military** exercise between Nepal and China. It will be held from September 17 to 28, 2018 in Chengdu, China.
- It is not part of the One Belt One Road (OBOR) project of China.
- Sagarmatha Friendship - 2 comes in the backdrop of Nepal recently pulling out from the first-ever joint military exercise by the Bimstec countries to be held in Pune. It is indicative of the geopolitical tensions in Southeast Asia and increasing influence of China.

10. b

- The Global Commission on the Economy and Climate is a major independent international initiative to examine how countries can achieve economic growth while dealing with the risks posed by climate change.

- The Commission comprises former heads of government and finance ministers and leaders in the fields of economics and business.
- The commission calls for governments to put a price on carbon of at least \$40-80 by 2020 and to move towards mandatory climate risk disclosure for major investors and companies.

### 12-09-2018

1. Consider the following statements with respect to the HIV and AIDS (Prevention and Control) Act, 2017

1. No person shall be compelled to disclose his HIV status except with his informed consent, or if required by a court order.
2. There is no grievancedressal mechanism provided in the act.
3. Every HIV infected or affected person below the age of 18 years has the right to reside in a shared household and enjoy the facilities of the household.

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

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

2. "Apsara – U" was in news recently. Consider the following statements in this context

1. It is the upgraded version of Apsara research reactor which was built with the partnership of Russia
2. The reactor is set to increase the production of radio-isotopes for medical application due to its higher neutron flux

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

3. Consider the following statements about Catarrhal Fever

1. It is a rare and deadly livestock disease caused by a virus
2. The disease can be prevented through early vaccination

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

4. Consider the following statements

1. It is a forest area with perennial flow of River Thamirabarani and its tributaries and popularly known as 'River Sanctuary'
2. It was created by merging of two wildlife sanctuaries
3. It is a World Heritage Site and it is part of Agasthiyamalai Biosphere Reserve.

With the given clues, identify the name of the Tiger Reserve.

- a. Anaimalai Tiger Reserve
- b. Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve
- c. Mudumalai Tiger Reserve
- d. Kalakkad – Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve

5. Consider the following pairs

GI Tag of Saris	Origin
1. Arani	Tamil Nadu
2. Gadwal	Karnataka
3. Santipore	Sikkim

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

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

6. Consider the following statements about notices issued by INTERPOL

1. A Diffusion Notice helps in identifying the location of a fugitive in a foreign country
2. A Red Notice acts as an international arrest warrant for persons who are under extradition

Which of the statement(s) is/ are **not** true?

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

7. Consider the following statements about Fiscal Consolidation

1. Fiscal Consolidation refers to the act of increasing government's Capital expenditure
2. Expenditure on the lines of farm loan waivers, election-related spending, and flood relief are detrimental to fiscal consolidation.

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

8. Consider the following statements about Debt Recovery Tribunal (DRT)

1. It is a body created by RBI to look into matters of debt recovery and reduce the burden of banks
2. The pecuniary limit was recently brought down from 20 lakh to 10 lakh for filing applications to the DRT

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

9. Consider the following statements about Kisan Credit Cards

1. They can be used for buying agricultural inputs and drawing cash through cheques, ATM facilities and not through PoS operation.
2. The implementation of this scheme is completely carried out by NABARD

Which of the statement(s) is/ are **not** true?

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

10. Which of the following Greenhouse gases are released from Agricultural fields?

1. Methane
2. Sulpher oxides
3. Nitrous oxide
4. Carbon dioxide
5. Hydroflurocarbons

Choose the correct alternative

- a. 1, 2, 3, 5
- b. 2, 3, 4, 5
- c. 1, 2, 4
- d. 1, 2, 3, 4

## Answers

1. c

The Act provides for an Ombudsman who shall be appointed by each state government to inquire into complaints related to the Act

The Act comes to force from 10th September, 2018

Other features of the Act include

- Prohibition of discrimination based on in terms of (i) employment, (ii) educational establishments, (iii) health care services, (iv) residing or renting property, (v) standing for public or private office, and (vi) provision of insurance (unless based on actuarial studies).
- Prohibits of any individual from publishing information or advocating feelings of hatred

against HIV positive persons and those living with them

- Right to HIV prevention, testing, treatment and counseling services for every person in the care and custody of the state

2. b

1. Apsara and its upgraded version Apsara- U are indigenously built.
2. The reactor uses plate type dispersion fuel elements made of Low Enriched Uranium (LEU).
3. It now becomes Operational at Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Trombay

3. a

1. The Catarrhal Fever has neither vaccination nor cure
2. It is caused by virus and it originates in South Africa
3. It resurfaced in a village in Kunigaltaluk in Tumakuru district and killed 6 cattle recently

4. d

5. a

1. Gadwal Sari is from Telangana
2. Santipore Sari is from West Bengal

6. b

According to INTERPOL, a Red Notice

- cannot compel any member country to arrest an individual who is the subject of a Red Notice.
- Each member country decides for itself what legal value to give a Red Notice within their borders
- Hence, it is not binding on a country

7. b

Fiscal Consolidation refers to the policies undertaken by Governments (national and sub-national levels) to reduce their deficits and accumulation of debt stock.

8. d

- DRT was set up through the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act (RDBBFI), 1993 to facilitate the debt recovery involving banks and other financial institutions with their customers

- The pecuniary limit was recently increased from 10 lakh to 20 lakh for filing applications to the DRT to increase their focus on high-value cases and reduce their burden

9. c

KCC can be used in the following ways

- operation through branch;
- operation using cheque facility;
- withdrawal through ATM /debit cards
- operation through Business Correspondents and 'banking outlet/part-time banking outlet'<sup>3</sup>
- operation through PoS available in Sugar Mills/Contract farming companies, etc., especially for tie-up advances;
- operations through PoS available with input dealers;
- Mobile based transfer transactions at agricultural input dealers and mandies.

10. c

IPCC reports that 10 to 12 per cent of global anthropogenic GHG emissions are through agriculture in the form of Carbon dioxide, Nitrous Oxide, and Methane

### 13-09-2018

1. Consider the following statements regarding International Whaling Commission

- 1. The main purpose of the organisation is to prevent whaling.
- 2. U.S recently left the organisation.
- 3. It is an inter-governmental organisation.

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

- a. 1 & 2 only
- b. 1 & 3 only
- c. 3 only
- d. All of the above

2. Consider the following statements about refugees.

- 1. They are refugees from the neighbouring country, Bangladesh.

- 2. They were the victims of violent ethnic clashes.

- 3. They found refugee in Indian state of Mizoram.

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

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. 3 only
- d. All of the above

3. Consider the following statements regarding National Technical Research Organisation (NTRO)

- 1. NTRO reports to Ministry of Home Affairs.
- 2. The officials of NTRO have the same norms of conduct as IB and RAW.

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

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

4. Consider the following statements about MILEX – 2018

- 1. It is a bilateral military exercise between India and Maldives.
- 2. It focusses on anti-terror operation and it is being held in India this year.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are not correct?

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

5. Consider the following statements about Comprehensive Nuclear 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 came into force in 2008 after two-third countries in UN General Assembly signed it.
- 3. India, United States and China have not signed the treaty.

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

- a. 1 only  
 b. 2 and 3 only  
 c. 1 and 3 only  
 d. 1,2 and 3
6. Consider the following statements about Ethiopia and Eritrea
1. Both the countries are part of Horn of Africa countries
  2. Both the countries have access to Sea.
  3. Both the countries have border with Sudan.
- Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
- a. 1 only  
 b. 1 and 2 only  
 c. 2 and 3 only  
 d. 1 and 3 only
7. Consider the following statements about PM-AASHA scheme
1. It is a crop procurement scheme aims at providing remunerative prices for all the crops to the farmers.
  2. It is an umbrella scheme covering Price Support Scheme (PSS), Price Deficiency Payment scheme (PDP), Pilot of Private Procurement & Stockist Scheme (PPPS).
  3. It gives special procurement method to oil seeds alone.
- Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
- a. 1 and 2 only  
 b. 2 and 3 only  
 c. 1 and 3 only  
 d. 1,2 and 3
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 & 2 only  
 c. 1 & 3 only  
 d. All of the above
9. The Trade facilitation agreement (TFA) of the WTO says that farm subsidies cannot be more than 10% of the
- a. Gross Domestic Product of a country.
  - b. Value of agricultural production
  - c. National income of a country
  - d. Value of agricultural exports
10. Arrange the following ports from West to East
1. Karachi
  2. Gwadar
  3. Chabahar
  4. Mumbai
- Select the correct answer using the code given below
- a. 4 – 1 – 2 – 3  
 b. 1 – 2 – 3 – 4  
 c. 3 – 2 – 1 – 4  
 d. 2 – 3 – 1 – 4

## Answers

1. c

IWC do not completely prevent whaling. They regulate whaling by setting catch limits by species and area, designating specified areas as whale sanctuaries, protection of calves and females accompanied by calves, and restrictions on hunting methods.

USA is a member and also a depository nation which means that any nation wishing to become a member of the IWC, is required to notify the State Department of the USA.

2. b

Around 32,000 Bru/Reang refugees fled from Mamit, Kolasib and Lunglei districts in Mizoram during the ethnic clashes in 1997. They have been residing in the Tripura camps for the past 21 years.

3. b

- NTRO reports to Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and National Security Advisor.
- In 2017, NTRO was listed under "The Intelligence Organisations (Restriction of Rights) Act, 1985". After which, it is being subjected to same norms of conduct as IB and RAW.
- The Act prevents employees of a notified agency from forming unions/associations, bars any communication with the press, or publishing a book or other document without the permission of the head of the intelligence organisation.

4. a

- MILEX is the Military Field Training Exercise of BIMSTEC countries.
- BIMSTEC countries - Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bhutan and Nepal.
- Nepal and Thailand have recently withdrawn from the exercise and going to send only observers to the exercise.

5.a

- It can enter into force after it is ratified by eight countries with nuclear technology capacity, namely China, Egypt, India, Iran, Israel, North Korea, Pakistan and the United States.
- China, Egypt, Iran, Israel and the United States have signed but not ratified the Treaty.
- India, North Korea and Pakistan have not signed it.

6. d

Horn of Africa countries – Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia and Djibouti.



7. b

- It is an umbrella scheme which clubs the existing procurement scheme (covering 23 crops) and newly introduced option for oil seeds only.
- For procuring oilseeds, additional procurement by private traders and states will be allowed to choose between any of the 3 schemes subsumed under it.

8. c

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, Chinese Renminbi and U.S. dollar.

9. b

10. c

**14-09-2018**

1. Consider the following statements about Fixed Dose Combinations

1. FDC may result in anti-microbial resistance
2. Under the powers given in the Drugs and Cosmetics Act 1940, the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) recently banned the manufacture and sales of many FDCs

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

- a. 1 only
  - b. 2 only
  - c. Both 1 and 2
  - d. Neither 1 nor 2
2. The overall objective of the Capacity Development Scheme is
- a. To augment existing scientific, human capabilities to bring in entrepreneurship
  - b. To augment infrastructural, technical as well as manpower resources for making available credible and timely Official Statistics for policy makers and public at large.
  - c. To improve the lives of minorities through digital literacy
  - d. To enhance the research ecosystem in Scientific and Technical institutions through Central Government Funding

3. Consider the following statements about Dairy Processing & Infrastructure Development Fund

- 1. It is used to provide funding support to dairy cooperatives at an interest of 6.5 per cent per annum and will have to be reimbursed over a period of 10 years.
- 2. It has a corpus of 5000 crore Rupees

Which of the statement(s) is/ are **not** true?

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

4. Consider the following statements about NovaSAR and S1-4

- 1. They are satellites of European Union which will be launched by ISRO as part of its commercial arrangement
- 2. Both the satellites have applications related to Disaster Management

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

- a. 1 only

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

5. Consider the following statements about the Defence Industrial Corridor Project

- 1. Defence Manufacturing was identified as one of the 25 key sectors as part of Make in India initiative.
- 2. The project aims to set up two Defence Industrial Corridors one each in Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh respectively

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

6. Consider the following statements about Nuclear Suppliers' Group

- 1. It was founded in response to the Indian nuclear test in May 1974.
- 2. It is a consensus-based organization
- 3. The STA-1 status which was given to India by the US is the first step in achieving NSG membership

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

7. Which of the statement(s) about Pan African Digital Knowledge and Health Network?

- 1. It aims at providing free tele-education courses in various academic disciplines to African Students
- 2. It has a special emphasis on medical education for African doctors, nurses, and para-medical staff
- 3. The project is jointly funded by Government of India and World Bank

Choose the correct alternative

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

8. 'Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Allied Sciences' was in news. Consider the following statements in this context.

- It recently developed India's first indigenous medical kit that may ensure protection during a nuclear warfare or radioactive leakage.
- It can achieve a remarkably 100 per cent protection against nuclear radiation
- India currently procures these kits from advanced countries such as US, and Russia

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

9. Consider the following statements about Nominal Effective Exchange Rates (NEER) and Real Effective Exchange Rates (REER)

- NEER is adjusted for inflation while REER is the Exchange Rate before taking into account inflation
- REER is more reliable than NEER for understanding a country's economic position

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

10. Arrange the following European Countries from North to South

- Serbia
- Malta

3. Romania

Choose the correct alternative

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

## Answers

1. a

- The Act empowers the Central Government to prohibit the manufacture, sale and distribution for human use any drug which can cause a negative impact on human lives
- Under the powers given in the Drugs and Cosmetics Act 1940, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare recently banned the manufacture and sales of many FDCs
- FDCs for a long time now have been seen as a cause for anti-microbial resistance
- The central government has banned a total of 329 fixed drug combinations (FDC).

2. b

- The Capacity Development Scheme is an Ongoing Central Sector Scheme of MoSPI.
- The overall objective of the scheme is to augment infrastructural, technical as well as manpower resources for making available credible and timely Official Statistics for policy makers and public at large.
- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved continuation of the Capacity Development Scheme for the period 2017-18 to 2019-20 with an outlay of Rs 2,250 crore.

3. b

The fund was started by Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying, and Fisheries with an outlay of 10,881 crores

The scheme is set to benefit 9500000 farmers across 50000 villages

4. b

- They are satellites of United Kingdom (UK)

- NovaSAR is an S-Band Synthetic Aperture Radar satellite intended for forest mapping, land use and ice cover monitoring, flood and disaster monitoring.
- S1-4 is a high-resolution Optical Earth Observation Satellite, used for surveying resources, environment monitoring, urban management and for disaster monitoring.
- Both of them will be launched by PSLV.

5. a

In 2018-19 Union Budget, Government had announced setting up of two corridors – one in Tamil Nadu and other in UP exclusively for defence manufacturing.

6. a

- NSG is a group of nuclear supplier countries that seek to prevent nuclear proliferation by controlling the export of materials, equipment and technology that can be used to manufacture nuclear weapons.
- It was founded in response to the Indian nuclear test in May 1974.
- The NSG Guidelines contain “Non-Proliferation Principle,” adopted in 1994.
- There are currently 48 members in this organisation

7. c

It is completely funded by Government of India

8. c

- It recently developed India's first indigenous medical kit that may ensure protection from serious injuries and faster healing of wounds resulting from nuclear warfare or radioactive leakage.
- The kit is effective in offering 80- 90 per cent protection

9. b

The real effective exchange rate (REER) is the weighted average of a country's currency in relation to an index or basket of other major currencies, adjusted for the effects of inflation.

10. d

Vice-President of India will embark on a three-nation visit to Serbia, Malta and Romania on a weeklong trip from September 14 -21.

**15-09-2018**

1. Consider the following statements regarding ICESat

1. The first satellite under ICESat project is going to be launched by NASA.
2. It is the benchmark earth observing system.

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

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

2. Consider the following statements regarding Wholesale Price Index

1. It is calculated by Central Statistics Office under Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
2. Manufacturing items has highest weightage followed by Primary Articles and Fuel & Power respectively.
3. The base year for calculating WPI is 2015-16.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are not correct?

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

3. Consider the following statements regarding G20

1. The first ever digital ministers meeting was recently held in Argentina.
2. G20 has its permanent secretariat in Geneva.
3. EU is also a part of G20.

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

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

4. Consider the following statements regarding "ParyatanParv"

1. The programme is under the Ministry of culture.
2. It is organised with the objective of showcasing the cultural diversity of India.

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

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

5. Consider the following statements regarding Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY)

1. Under the scheme, pregnant women and lactating mothers are offered a cash incentive as a compensation for wage loss.
2. The cash incentive is given for first two child births.

Which of the above statement(s) 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 Hague convention

1. India is a party to Hague convention on protection of children and cooperation in respect of Inter-country adoption.
2. India is not a party to Hague convention on Child Abduction.

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

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

7. Consider the following statements regarding South Pars

1. It is the world's single largest natural gasfield oilfield located in Iran.

2. Recently, India has signed an agreement for its development.

Which of the above statement(s) 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 "Mission Satyanishtha"

1. It was launched by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.
2. It aims at sensitizing employees about the need to adhere to good ethics and to maintain high standards of integrity at work.

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

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

9. Consider the following statements regarding International organisation for Migration (IOM)

1. It is a part of United Nations system.
2. India is a member of this organisation.

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

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

10. Which of the following pollutants are included in both National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and National Air Quality Index

1. Ozone
2. Nitrogen Dioxide
3. Carbon Dioxide
4. Benzene
5. Ammonia

Select the answer using the codes given below.

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

## Answers

1. b
- ICESat-1 was launched in the year 2003. ICESat - 2 is scheduled to be launched soon by NASA.
  - The ICESat mission is for measuring ice sheet mass balance, cloud and aerosol heights, as well as land topography and vegetation characteristics.
2. c
- WPI is calculated by the Office of Economic Advisor, DIPP under Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
  - The weightage of its components are Primary Articles (Weight 22.62%), Fuel & Power (Weight 13.15%), and Manufactured Products (Weight 64.23%).
  - Base year is 2011-12
3. d
- The first ever digital ministers meeting was held in Germany in 2017.
  - G20 has no permanent secretariat.
4. b
- The programme is under the Ministry of Tourism
  - Its objective is to focus on the benefits of tourism, showcasing the cultural diversity of the country and reinforcing the principle of “Tourism for All”.
5. a
- The Scheme provides cash incentives to pregnant and lactating women,
    - i. for the wage loss so that the woman can take adequate rest before and after delivery;
    - ii. to improve her health and nutrition during the period of pregnancy and lactation;
  - iii. to breastfeed the child during the first six months of the birth, which is very vital for the development of the child.
  - The cash incentive under PMMVY is payable in three instalments for the first live birth.
  - However, the anganwadiservices, which is universal, is available to all PW&LM including the second pregnancy.
6. c
7. a
- A Chinese company has recently acquired the stake for its developement. Previously it was held by France.
8. b
- It was launched by the Minsitry of Railways.
  - It aims at sensitizing all railway employees about the need to adhere to good ethics and to maintain high standards of integrity at work.
  - It is the first ever such mission by any government organisation.
9. c
10. d
- NAAQS pollutants -
- Sulphur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), Particulate Matter (PM 10, PM 2.5), Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>), Lead (Pb), Carbon Monoxide (CO), Ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>), Benzene (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>), Benzo(a)Pyrene (BaP), Arsenic(As), Nickel (Ni).
- NAQ pollutants
1. Ground-level Ozone or O<sub>3</sub>
  2. Particulate Matter (soot and dust) - PM 2.5 and PM 10
  3. Carbon Monoxide or CO
  4. Sulphur Dioxide or SO<sub>2</sub>
  5. Nitrogen Dioxide or NO<sub>2</sub>
  6. Ammonia or NH<sub>3</sub>

**17-09-2018**

1. Consider the following statements about Chiller Star Labelling Program

- It is formulated by Energy Efficiency Services Limited
- It envisages providing star ratings to Chillers and promote energy-efficiency
- It also aims to save more than 500 million units of electricity in 2019 along with Green House Gases reduction

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

2. Consider the following statements about Man Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM)

- It is an indigenously developed third-generation anti-tank missile
- It will complement the Spike Anti-Tank Guided Missile to be procured from Israel
- It has a maximum range of 5 kilometre

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

3. Consider the following statements about Aravalli Range

- It is a new fold mountain
- The Luni and Banas rivers originate in this Range
- The highest peak in Aravalli range is Guru Shikar

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

- 1 and 2 only

4. The Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016 (RERA) was seen often in news. Consider the following statements about this Act.

- The Act mandates that 70% of the amount collected from buyers for a project must be maintained in a separate bank account and must only be used for construction of that project.
- It provides for state level tribunals called Real Estate Appellate Tribunals as an appellate body

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

5. Consider the following statements about Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013

- The Bill prohibits employing a person as a manual scavenger and provides for the rehabilitation of people currently engaged in the profession.
- A statutory body called National Commission for SafaiKaramcharis was established under this Act

Which of the statement(s) is/ are **not** true?

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

6. Consider the following statements about PradhanMantriKrishiSinchaiYojana (PMKSY)

- It aims to formulate a centralised plan for water conservation
- It calls for enhancing the adoption of precision-irrigation and other water saving technologies

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

7. Consider the following statements about AtalBihari Vajpayee Zoological Park

- It is located near Hampi, Karnataka
- It will be the second safari park in Karnataka to host a tiger and lion safari
- The authority to set up a Wildlife Safari Park lies with MoEFCC

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

8. Consider the following statements about Koodiyattam/ Kutiyattam

- It is a form of Sanskrit theatre
- It belongs to the coastal regions of Karnataka
- NetaAbhinaya (eye expression) and Hasta Abhinaya (the language of gestures) are prominent in this art form

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

9. Consider the following statements about the 'Smart Fence' project of India

- It aims to deploy laser-activated fences and technology-enabled barriers to plug vulnerable gaps along the India- China border
- It will be implemented by the Border Security Force

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

10. Consider the following statements about PSLV launch vehicles

- It consists of four stages, each of which is a self-contained vehicle capable of functioning independently with own propulsion systems.
- The Core Alone version of PSLV was recently used to launch two earth observation satellites of UK
- Core Alone version of PSLV is used for launching heavy payloads

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

## Answers

1. b

- The Chiller Star Labelling Program has been formulated by Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE).
- The program envisages providing star rating in terms of its energy performance.
- Initially, the program is launched on voluntary basis and will be valid upto 31st December 2020.
- Through Chiller star labelling Program, it is estimated that more than 500 million units of electricity would be saved in 2019 along with Green House Gases (GHG) reduction of 0.5 million-ton equivalent of CO<sub>2</sub>.

2. a

- It has been developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- It has a maximum range of about 2.5 kilometers.

3. b

It is an old fold mountain

4. c

- The Act regulates transactions between buyers and promoters of residential real estate projects.
- It establishes state level regulatory authorities called Real Estate Regulatory Authorities (RERAs).
- Promoters cannot book or offer any project for sale without registering them with RERA

5. b

- National Commission for SafaiKaramcharis was established through the National Commission for SafaiKaramcharis Act, 1993 and not the 2013 Act.
- **Under the 2013 Act,** A “manual scavenger” is defined as a person who is engaged for manually cleaning or disposing of human excreta in an insanitary latrine or in an open drain or on a railway track. “Insanitary latrine” means a latrine which requires human excreta to be cleaned manually.
- If anyone employs a manual scavenger or constructs an insanitary latrine, he shall be penalized with imprisonment up to one year or a fine of up to Rs 50,000 or both. The penalty for subsequent offences is higher.
- The District Magistrate has to ensure that no person within his jurisdiction is engaged as a manual scavenger, constructs an insanitary latrine, and manual scavengers are rehabilitated.

6. b

- Programme architecture of PMKSY will be to adopt a ‘decentralized State level planning and projectised execution’ structure that will allow States to draw up their own irrigation development plans based on District Irrigation Plan (DIP) and State Irrigation Plan (SIP).
- The scheme will be implemented by Ministries of Agriculture, Water Resources and Rural Development.

7. a

It will be the third safari park in Karnataka to host a tiger and lion safari after the Bannerghatta Biological Park and Tyavarekoppa Safari Park

8. c

- It is practiced in Kerala

- It is one of the oldest surviving form of Sanskrit Theatre in India
- It is a UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage

9. b

It will be deployed in the two 5-km each patches along the Indo-Pakistan border

10. a

- Core Alone is its lightest version without the six strap-on motors. It is used for launching smaller payloads.
- PSLV was recently used to launch NovaSAR and S1-4 which belong to UK

### 18-09-2018

1. Consider the following statements about merger and amalgamation

1. The key difference between a merger and an amalgamation is that in a merger at least one of the firms retain their identity but in amalgamation all entities lose their identity after coming together
2. The proposed amalgamation of Bank of Baroda, Vijaya Bank and Dena Bank will give way to the largest bank of India

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

2. Consider the following statements about Jhum Cultivation

1. It is followed in northeast India
2. This technique cannot be used to produce food crops
3. It is based on natural cycle of regeneration of forest

Which of the statement(s) is/ are not true?

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

3. Consider the following statements about the Montreal Protocol

1. It is an international environmental agreement with universal ratification to protect the earth's ozone layer by eliminating use of ozone depleting substances (ODS)
2. It is implemented by UNDP

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

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

4. Consider the following statements about Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)

1. It is the amount of dissolved oxygen used by microorganisms in the biological process of metabolizing organic matter in water.
2. It is a useful indicator to study pollution in water bodies

Which of the statement(s) is/ are **not** true?

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

5. 'EyeRov TUNA' was in news recently. Which of the following statement(s) is/ are true about it?

1. It is India's first underwater robotic drone
2. It was developed by DRDO
3. It can be navigated up to a depth of 50 metres to take real-time HD video images undersea

Select the right answer using the codes given below.

- a. 1 and 2 only

- b. 2 and 3 only

- c. 1 and 3 only

- d. 1, 2, 3

6. Consider the following statements about E-way Bills

1. It is a document to be generated online under the GST system during inter-state transportation of goods only
2. The minimum amount of value of goods that requires an e-way bill is 50000 rupees

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

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

7. Consider the following pairs

Nuclear Plant	Located in
1. Kakrapara	West Bengal
2. Kudankulam	Tamil Nadu
3. Jaitapur	Maharashtra

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

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

8. The world's first Hydrogen train is launched by which of the following countries?

- a. Germany
- b. Austria
- c. France
- d. The Netherlands

9. Consider the following statements about 'Future of Jobs' report

1. It was recently launched by the World Bank

2. It projects that machines are to overtake humans in workplace task hours in 12 key industry sectors by 2025

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

- a. 1 only
  - b. 2 only
  - c. Both 1 and 2
  - d. Neither 1 nor 2
10. Which of the following African country(s) is/ are landlocked?
1. Malta
  2. Chad
  3. Zimbabwe

Select the answer using the codes given below

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

## Answers

1. a

The proposed amalgamation of the public sector banks- Bank of Baroda, Vijaya Bank and Dena Bank will form India's third largest bank after SBI and ICICI Bank

2. d

Jhum cultivation or slash and burn agriculture is considered as an important mainstay of food production in northeast India in States like Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Tripura and Manipur.

3. c

The International Day for Preservation of Ozone Layer (or World Ozone Day) is observed every year on September 16 for the preservation of the Ozone Layer

4. d

5. c

- It was developed by EyeROV Technologies, a company incubating at Kalamassery-based Maker Village, Kochi

- NPOL, a laboratory of Delhi-headquartered Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), made the first order of the product.

6. b

The E-way bill is a document to be generated online under the GST system, when goods of the value of more than Rs.50,000 are shipped **inter-State or intra-State**

7. d

Kakrapara nuclear plant is located in Gujarat

8. a

- The world's first hydrogen train is entering into commercial service in Germany
- Hydrogen trains are equipped with fuel cells that produce electricity through a combination of hydrogen and oxygen, a process that leaves steam and water as the only emissions.
- Excess energy is stored in ion lithium batteries on board the train.

9. b

- It was launched by the **World Economic Forum**
- It predicts that 75 million jobs will be displaced by artificial intelligence (AI), robotics, and automation, but suggests that 133 million new jobs may be created as organisations shift the balance between human workers and machines: a net gain of 58 million.

10. c

Africa has 16 landlocked countries: Botswana, Burundi, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Chad, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Niger, Rwanda, South Sudan, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

**19-09-2018**

1. Consider the following statements about Cyclotrons
- 1. They are useful devices to predict cyclones especially in tropical countries
  - 2. Cyclone- 30 is the biggest cyclotron which was inaugurated recently in India

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

- a. 1 only

- b. 2 only  
c. Both 1 and 2  
d. Neither 1 nor 2
- b. 2 and 3 only  
c. 1 and 3 only  
d. 1, 2 and 3
2. Consider the following statements with respect to Defence sector in India
1. Akash is a medium range surface-air missile that is indigenously developed in India
  2. The Defence Acquisition Council is the apex body which approves the procurement of any Defence Equipment
- Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?
- a. a. 1 only
  - b. b. 2 only
  - c. c. Both 1 and 2
  - d. d. Neither 1 nor 2
3. Consider the following statements about e-Sahaj
1. It is an online portal developed for grant of Security Clearance in sensitive sectors
  2. Ministry of External Affairs is the nodal ministry for granting Security Clearance before the issue of any kind of licence, permission, contract etc, to companies/ bidders/ individuals by the administrative Ministry.
- Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?
- a. a. 1 only
  - b. b. 2 only
  - c. c. Both 1 and 2
  - d. d. Neither 1 nor 2
4. Consider the following statements about Zonal Councils
1. It is a Constitutional body
  2. There are at present five Zonal Councils
  3. Each Zonal Council has a Standing Committee consisting of Chief Secretaries of the member States of their respective Zonal Councils.
- Which of the given statement(s) is/ are true?
- a. 1 and 2 only
5. Consider the following statements about International Astronomical Union
1. It is an inter-governmental body with an aim to foster Astronomical Research
  2. The IAU serves as the internationally recognized authority for assigning designations to celestial bodies and surface features on them
- Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?
- a. 1 only
  - b. 2 only
  - c. Both 1 and 2
  - d. Neither 1 nor 2
6. Consider the following pairs
- | Term           | Definition  |
|----------------|---|
| 1. Oort Cloud  | - Giant spherical shell surrounding the Sun, planets, and Kuiper Belt Objects |
| 2. Kuiper Belt | - A region containing icy bodies beyond Neptune                               |
| 3. Asteroids   | - Minor planets found in Kuiper Belt  |
- Which of the pair(s) is/are correctly matched?
- a. 1 and 2 only
  - b. 2 and 3 only
  - c. 2 and 3 only
  - d. 1, 2 and 3
7. Consider the following statements about Goalkeepers Data Report 2018
1. It was released by the United Nations, in regards with its goal of reducing poverty.
  2. It identifies sub-Saharan Africa as the place where more than 80% of world's extremely poor are to live by 2050

3. According to the report, the percentage of people who live in extreme poverty has drastically come down in South Asia

Which of the statement(s) is/are true?

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

8. Consider the following statements about Arbitration and Conciliation

- 1. Conciliation calls for appointment of an independent 'third party' whose final decision is binding on both the parties
- 2. There is no power to enforce a decision in an Arbitration process

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

9. The 'Prescription for Poverty' report is released by

- a. Oxfam
- b. G 20
- c. World Economic Forum
- d. World Trade Organisation

10. Consider the following statements about Mudumalai Tiger Reserve

- 1. It is located on the tri-junction of the states of Kerala, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu
- 2. It is part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve
- 3. It is home to tall grasses called as 'Elephant Grass'

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

- d. 1, 2 and 3

## Answers

1. b

- Cyclotrons are used to produce radioisotopes for diagnostic and therapeutic use for cancer care.
- Cyclone-30 facility is at Variable Energy Cyclotron Centre (VECC), Kolkata, a Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) unit
- This facility will provide for affordable radio isotopes and related radiopharmaceuticals for the entire country especially for Eastern India
- It also have export potential for Germanium-68/Gallium-68 generator for in-situ production of Gallium-68 and Palladium-103 isotopes, used for breast cancer diagnosis and prostate cancer treatment, respectively.

2. c

Pursuing the goal of indigenisation and self-reliance, the DAC recently approved the procurement of two Regiments of Akash Missile Systems under '**Buy (Indian)**' category from Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL)

3. a

- Ministry of Home Affairs is the nodal Ministry for security clearances in certain sensitive sectors before issue of licence/permit, permission, contract etc, to companies/bidders/individuals by the administrative Ministry.
- The objective of national security clearance is to evaluate potential security threats, including economic threats, and provide risk assessment before clearing investment and project proposals in key sectors.

4. b

- A zonal council is not a constitutional body. The five Zonal Councils were set up by The States Re-organisation Act, 1956, for central, norther, easter, western and southern zones.
- The North-eastern states have a separate council called the North Eastern Council set up under the North Eastern Council Act, 1972
- Union Home Minister is the chairman of the Zonal Councils.

- Each Zonal Council has a Standing Committee consisting of Chief Secretaries of the member States of their respective Zonal Councils.

5. b

It is not an inter-governmental body. Its members are professional astronomers from across the world.

Functions of IAU

- definition of fundamental astronomical and physical constants
- unambiguous astronomical nomenclature
- promotion of educational activities in astronomy
- informal discussions on the possibilities for future international large-scale facilities

Furthermore, the IAU serves as the internationally recognized authority for assigning designations to celestial bodies and surface features on them.

6. a

Asteroids are located in between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter.

7.c

- The Report was given by Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, mainly to track the annual progress of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) laid down in 2015.
- In South Asia, people living below the extreme poverty line has come down from 45% in 1990 to just 1% today, while in sub-Saharan Africa it has merely declined from 59% to 22% in this period.
- This has shifted “the geography of poverty” to sub-Saharan Africa, which should now be the focus of the “third wave of poverty reduction” until 2050.

8. d

Arbitration is a dispute settlement process in which an impartial third party is appointed to study the dispute and hear both the parties to arrive at a decision which is binding on both the parties.

Conciliation is a method of resolving a dispute, wherein an independent person helps the parties to arrive at negotiated settlement. However, a conciliator do not have the power to enforce his/her decision.

9. a

It is an Oxfam report.

It says '**The world's biggest pharmaceutical companies appear to be dodging an estimated \$3.8 billion in tax per year across 16 countries'**

10. d

**20-09-2018**

1. Consider the following statements about AtalBimitVyaktiKalyanYojana

1. It is a scheme for providing unemployment allowance to workers rendered jobless due to the changing employment pattern
2. It is implemented by LIC of India

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

2. Consider the following statements about Exercise Aviaindra-18

1. It is an annual Air Force level exercise conducted since 2014
2. It is held between India and Russia

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

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

1. It is an independent inter-governmental organisation for Information and Communication Technologies
2. Its South Asia Area Office and Technology Innovation Centre will be established in New Delhi

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

- 1 only
- 2 only

- c. Both 1 and 2  
d. Neither 1 nor 2
4. Consider the following statements in relation to the Dam Rehabilitation Improvement Project (DRIP).
1. The project was approved by the Central Water Commission (CWC).
  2. DRIP is funded with shares from the World Bank, the States and Implementing Agencies (IAs), and the Central Water Commission (CWC).
  3. DRIP envisages the rehabilitation and improvement of dams within four states.
- Which of the statement/s is/are correct?
- a. 1 and 3 only
  - b. 2 only
  - c. 3 only
  - d. None of the above
5. India is a member to which of the following Conventions/ Treaties on Copyrights?
1. Berne Convention of 1886
  2. Rome Convention of 1961
  3. WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty
  4. Universal Copyright Convention of 1951
- Choose the correct alternative
- a. 1, 2, 3 only
  - b. 1, 2, 4 only
  - c. 2, 3, 4 only
  - d. All of the above
6. Consider the following statements about Input Tax Credit
1. It refers to the amount a manufacturer can deduct from the overall tax payable after calculating the taxes he already paid for purchasing the inputs
  2. The National Anti-Profiteering Authority (NAA) cannot deal with cases of profiteering in terms of input tax credit
- Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?
- a. 1 only  
b. 2 only  
c. Both 1 and 2  
d. Neither 1 nor 2
7. Consider the following statements about Small Savings Schemes
1. They are run by government with the motive of social welfare by targeting small investors
  2. They generally provide a higher interest rate
  3. Public Provident Fund and National Savings Certificates are Small Savings Schemes
- Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?
- a. 1 and 2 only
  - b. 2 and 3 only
  - c. 1 and 3 only
  - d. 1, 2 and 3
8. Consider the following statements about Tropical Cyclones
1. They have a high occurrence during the active phase of monsoon
  2. A high Wind Shear factor results in increased formation of cyclones
- Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?
- a. 1 only
  - b. 2 only
  - c. Both 1 and 2
  - d. Neither 1 nor 2
9. Consider the following statements about 'WhAP 8x8 ICV'
1. It is a Wheeled Armoured Amphibious Platform developed by Reliance Naval and Engineering Limited along with DRDO
  2. It comes in multiple variants
- Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?
- a. 1 only
  - b. 2 only

- c. Both 1 and 2
  - d. Neither 1 nor 2
10. The 'Poverty and Shared Prosperity 2018: Piecing Together the Poverty Puzzle is a flagship report of?
- a. World Bank
  - b. World Economic Forum
  - c. UNDP
  - d. Transparency International

## Answers

1. a

It is a scheme of Employment State Insurance Corporation

Under the scheme, workers who are left unemployed for whatsoever reasons will be paid money, from their own contribution towards the ESI scheme, in cash through bank account transfer.

It will be applicable for employees covered under the Employees' State Insurance (ESI) Act, 1948

2. b

It is a biennial exercise (once in 2 years) conducted between the airforces of India and Russia

3. b

ITU is a United Nations specialized agency for Information and Communication Technologies, with membership of 193 countries and nearly 800 private sector entities and academic institutions

The ITU South Asia Office will serve nine countries – Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka, in addition to the host country – which together account for nearly 24% of the global population.

4.b

- It was recently approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) for revised cost estimate and an extension of time till **June 2020** from the initial deadline of 2018.
- [The Central Water Commission is a more Technical Organisation in the field of water resources, working on Designs and Research,

River Management and Water Planning and Projects].

- The project envisages the rehabilitation and improvement of dams within seven states - initially Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, and Tamil Nadu, and later joined by Karnataka, Uttarakhand, and Jharkhand.

5 d

India accessed as a member of the WIPO Copyright Treaty (WCT) and the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty (WPPT) in July, 2018.

6. a

Recently, the National Anti-Profiteering Authority (NAA) had come to the aid of homebuyers by concluding that a builder of affordable houses has profiteered by not passing the benefits of input tax credit to the buyers and ordered that the profiteered amount should be passed on to the buyers.

7. d

8. d

- Wind Shear factor refers to sudden change in wind direction that unsettles a building system of cyclone
- They tend to be high during an active monsoon, which is why tropical cyclones are rare during that phase of the monsoon.
- They are low to moderate during the transition phase of monsoon which results in many cyclone formation

9. b

The WhAP8x8 (Wheeled Armoured Amphibious Platform) is jointly developed with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) by **Tata motors**

It comes in various variants such as Armoured Fighting vehicles, CBRN vehicle, Recce & Support vehicle, Medical Evacuation vehicle, Engineer Squad vehicle, Mortar Carrier, Commander's vehicle and Anti-Tank Guided Missile vehicle.

10. a

- It is a report of World Bank
- The World Bank's preliminary forecast is that extreme poverty has declined to 8.6 per cent in 2018.
- It finds out that despite the tremendous progress in reducing extreme poverty, rates

remain stubbornly high in low-income countries and those affected by conflict and political upheaval.

- It also focuses on reducing relative poverty in the South Asian region

### 21-09-2018

1. Consider the following statements about Ordinance

1. President can promulgate an ordinance only when both the houses of Parliament are not in session
2. The maximum period for which an ordinance can be valid is 6 months and 6 weeks

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

2. Consider the following statements about Prahar

1. It is capable of carrying multiple types of warheads
2. It is developed under the IGMDP programme for missile development
3. It is a surface to surface missile

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

3. Consider the following statements about Gulf of Mannar

1. It is a nesting ground for Olive Ridley turtles
2. It is a UNESCO Natural World Heritage Site
3. The Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve was set up with funding from the Global Environmental Facility (GEF)

Which of the statement(s) is/ are **not** true?

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

- c. 2 and 3 only

- d. 3 only

4. Consider the following statements about NRI Bonds

1. They assume significance in the backdrop of increased depreciation of Indian rupee against the US Dollar
2. They promise to give better returns for investments of NRIs in India than their domestic deposits
3. They are rupee-denominated bonds

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

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

5. Consider the following statements about Right to Education in India

1. The 84th Constitutional Amendment Act made Right to Education a Fundamental Right for children of age between six and fourteen
2. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 enshrines the duties of the Central and State Governments with respect to sharing of financial and other responsibilities in safeguarding this right

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

6. Consider the following statements about Inter-creditor Agreement (ICA)

1. It is part of the strategy to speed up the resolution process of stressed assets in the range of Rs 500 million to Rs 5 billion under consortium lending.
2. The ICA guidelines promise Banks which take up more than their pro rata share of funding the preference for charge over cash flows and assets subject to the extent of incremental funding only

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

7. Consider the following statements about Open Market Operations

- They are conducted by RBI on a day to day basis
- They have no effect on the rate of inflation in an economy
- The primary objective of OMO is to keep vigilance on the Priority Sector Lending operations of scheduled commercial banks

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

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

8. Consider the following statements about Article- 32 of the Indian Constitution

- It provides for the right to directly move the Supreme Court of India in case of violation of Fundamental Rights and DPSP
- The scope of writ jurisdiction of Supreme Court under Article- 32 is narrower than that of High Court under Article- 226

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

9. Consider the following statements about River Arkavathy

- It is a tributary of Krishna River
- It was in news for heavy decline in groundwater level due to water-intensive agriculture and increased urbanisation

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

10. Initial Public Offering refers to

- A kind of start-up capital invested on entrepreneurs
- A short-term deposit scheme aimed to control money supply
- The process by which a private company go public by sale of its stocks to general public
- An FDI route which doesn't need prior approval from the Central Bank

## Answers

1. b

- According to article 123, President can promulgate an ordinance if either one of the houses or both the houses is/ are not in session (recess)
- Ordinance is valid for a period of 6 weeks from the date of assembly of the houses. The maximum period for which the houses can be at recess in six months
- An ordinance has the same force and effect as that of an Act of Parliament
- Constitutional amendment cannot be done by an ordinance

2. b

- Prahar is a surface- surface ballistic missile
- It is a contemporary weapon system capable of carrying multiple types of warheads and neutralizing a wide variety of targets.
- Missiles developed under IGMDP are

  - PRITHVI - a surface to surface missile
  - TRISHUL - a quick reactions short range surface to air missile
  - Nag - a third generation anti-tank missile
  - AKASH - a medium range surface to air missile

5. AGNI - surface to surface ballistic missile
3. b
- It is **not** a UNESCO Natural World Heritage Site
  - It is one of the sites under the **Man and Biodiversity Programme (MAB)** of UNESCO and one of the important marine biodiversity regions
  - A study identified that climate change-caused bleaching, mortality and outbreak of disease posed serious threat to coral health and status in the Gulf of Mannar.
  - The entire coastal region of Ramanathapuram, Tuticorin and Tirunelveli falling in the Gulf of Mannar are an **important nesting ground for olive ridley turtles**
4. a
- They are not rupee-denominated bonds.
  - NRI bonds are bonds for raising forex deposits from non-resident Indians issued by RBI
  - Since these bonds offer higher returns than other similar investments, they can be used as a tool to attract capital during times when other domestic assets fail to attract the interest of foreign investors.
5. b
- The **Constitution (Eighty-sixth Amendment) Act, 2002** inserted **Article 21-A** in the Constitution of India to provide for **free and compulsory** education of all children in the age group of **six to fourteen** years as a Fundamental Right
  - The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 is a consequential legislation of this Act
  - It gave way to a **rights-based** framework that casts a legal obligation on the Central and State Governments to implement this fundamental child right as enshrined in the Article 21A of the Constitution, in accordance with the provisions of the RTE Act.
6. c
- ICA agreement is part of the proposed **Project Sashakt** which aims at faster resolution of bad loans
- The operational guidelines mentions the following
- Banks that take up more than pro rata share will get preference for charge over cash flows and assets
- Priority limited to the extent of incremental funding only
- Move triggered by the fact that a dozen banks are under prompt corrective action and may not be in a position to take on the load
- Interests of third-party and exclusive security to be protected
- ARCs are part of the game, but if transfers among ARCs are involved not spelt out
- Further tweaks can be expected once the ICA starts to get executed
7. b
- Open market operations are conducted by the RBI by way of sale or purchase of **government securities** (g-secs) to adjust money supply conditions. (**Liquidity**)
  - The central bank sells g-secs to suck out liquidity from the system and buys back g-secs to infuse liquidity into the system.
  - These operations are often conducted on a day-to-day basis in a manner that **balances inflation** while helping banks continue to lend.
8. b
- Article 32 provides for the right to directly move the Supreme Court of India in case of violation of **Fundamental Rights** only.
  - DPSPs are not Justiciable. Failure to implement DPSPs by the State cannot be challenged in a court
  - The writ jurisdiction of High Court under Article 226 is wider than that of Supreme Court under Article- 32 in terms of the matters covered.
  - The Supreme Court can issue writ only in case of violation of any of the fundamental rights contained in Part-III of the constitution while the High Courts can issue writs not only in case of violation of fundamental rights but also in case of violation of any legal rights of the citizens
9. b
- It is a tributary of **Kaveri** River.

10. c

An initial public offering is when a private company or corporation raises investment capital by offering its stock to the public for the first time.

**22-09-2018**

1. Consider the following statements about Bonded Labour in India

1. The Constitution abolishes the practise of 'Begar' under Article 23 of Fundamental Rights
2. There is no statutory provision in India against Bonded Labour

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

2. Consider the following statements about Raiganj Wildlife Sanctuary which was in news recently

1. The Kulik river flows through this sanctuary
2. It is home to a large number of migratory birds due to abundant food availability
3. It houses the largest population of Openbill Stork in Asia
4. It is located in Nagaland

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

3. Consider the following statements about Cyclone Warning in India

1. The Indian Meteorological Department is responsible for issuing weather warnings for ports
2. A Scale of 1 to 11 is used to alert vessels about the conditions of cyclonic storms

3. 'Scale 1' indicates the highest level of danger and that all communications have failed with cyclone warning office.

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

4. Consider the following statements with respect to adoption in India

1. In case of single parents, a woman can adopt a child of any gender but a man can adopt only boys
2. Live-in partners are not eligible for adoption
3. Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) is a statutory body under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare which functions as the nodal body for adoption.

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

5. Consider the following statements about Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV)

1. It can carry a payload capacity of 500 - 700 kg and can reach upto 500 kilometers in Earth's lower orbit
2. ISRO has completely transferred the technology of SSLV to private industries

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

6. Consider the following statements about Lake Victoria

1. It is a part of the East African Rift

2. The largest part of the lake is in Kenya

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

7. Consider the following statements about PMC Turbo mission

- 1. It is a mission of European Space Agency which aims to understand the phenomenon of turbulence by launching a giant balloon to the mesosphere
- 2. Atmospheric Gravity Waves play major roles in transferring energy from the lower atmosphere to the mesosphere which is responsible for turbulence

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

8. The Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) is released by

- a. WHO
- b. UNEP
- c. WEF
- d. UNDP

9. Consider the following statements about Foreign Portfolio Investments

- 1. Non Resident Indians (NRIs), Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs), Overseas Citizens of India (OCIs) and Resident Indians (RIs) cannot be Investment Managers of funds in India
- 2. SEBI mandates higher disclosure requirements for category-III and category-II FPIs

Which of the statemet(s) is/ are true?

- a. 1 only

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

10. Consider the following statements about Country Partnership Framework (CPF)

- 1. It is a five- year framework of International Monetary Fund
- 2. Under this framework, India would receive 25-30 billion dollar in financial support for its transition from a low-middle income to a high-middle income country

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

## Answers

1. a

- Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 & Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Rules, 1976 are key statutory provisions which protect people from Bonded Labour in India
- According to the definition given in section 2(g) of the Act, bonded labour means service arising out of loan/debt/advance.
- Protection from Bonded Labour is a fundamental right

2. c

- It is located in West Bengal
- It is home to the largest population of Openbill Stock in the world
- There are many artificial canals which connect to the Kulikriver. This has helped in having large food availability of fishes, snails, etc

3. a

The level of danger is indicated through a Scale of 1 to 11 where '1' means that a low pressure area is forming far at sea and surface wind could be upto 33 knots and '11' indicates the maximum damage level where all

communications have failed with cyclone warning office.

They are issued by IMD usually four times a day, and once every three hours in case of a cyclone.

4. b

- CARA has once again allowed live-in partners to adopt children by withdrawing an earlier issued notice which barred them from doing so.
- However, it will follow a case-by-case method for issuing approval for such adoptions
- CARA works under the Ministry of Women and Child Development

5.a

- SSLV is useful for launching smaller satellites such as nanosats and cubesats by effectively reducing the time and cost involved
- At present, small satellites are piggy-backed with larger ones and are being launched with the help of PSLV and GSLV
- Low Earth Orbit refers to altitudes from 160 to 2000 km
- ISRO is ready to transfer the entire SSLV “as a whole” to the private industry while the agency would provide the initial hand-holding. The SSLV is expected to be cleared by next year.

6. d

- It flows through three countries- Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda
- The largest portion of the lake is in Tanzania (49 per cent)
- Uganda and Kenya share 45 and 6 per cent respectively
- It is part of the African Great Lakes but not a part of the Rift Valley lakes.
- Lake Victoria is drained by the White Nile

7. b

It is a giant balloon mission of NASA

Data from clouds known as noctilucent clouds or polar mesospheric clouds (PMCs), may help scientists better understand turbulence in the atmosphere, as well as in oceans, lakes and other planetary atmospheres.

Noctilucent Clouds are ice crystals on tiny meteor remnants in the upper atmosphere which are affected by atmospheric gravity waves.

8. d

- MPI 2018 was recently released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative
- The MPI measures multiple deprivations in the same households in education, health and living standards and 10 indicators, namely nutrition, child mortality, years of schooling, school attendance, sanitation, cooking fuel, drinking water, electricity, housing and assets.
- It finds out that half of India's MPI poor people live in the states of Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh

9. b

- The regulator has allowed NRIs, OCIs and locals to act as investment managers (IM) of an FPI by diluting a circular issued by it earlier, provided they fulfill certain conditions.
- Sebi has said a single NRI, OCI and resident Indian can make contribution of not more than 25 per cent in foreign fund. The aggregate contribution of these investors can be 50 per cent of an FPI.
- SEBI has highlighted that the KYC requirements for FPIs would have to be in line with the rules under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA)
- As part of Risk based approach towards customer identity verification (KYC), FPIs have been categorized into three major categories:
  - **Category I (Low Risk)** which would include Government and entities like Foreign Central banks, Sovereign wealth Funds, Multilateral Organizations, etc
  - **Category II (Moderate Risk)** which would include Regulated entities such as banks, Pension Funds, Insurance Companies, Mutual Funds, Investment Trusts, Asset Management Companies, University related endowments (already registered with SEBI)
  - **Category III (High Risk)** which would include all other FPIs not eligible to be included in the above two categories

10. b

- It is a framework which extends financial support from World Bank (IBRD), the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA).
- It is an ambitious five-year framework for India under which it is expected to receive \$25-30 billion

2. A recent study by World Resources Institute (WRI) highlighted that sedimentation in Harangi Dam has increased by almost 100%

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

**24-09-2018**

1. Consider the following statements about H-1B and H-4 visas issued by the government of US

1. H1-B is a temporary visa issued only to highly skilled professionals who wish to be employed in the US
2. H-4 is an immigrant visa given to people who wish to permanently stay in the US

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

4. Consider the following statements about Quick Wilt

1. It is a disease that causes sudden wilting, drying and death of the pepper vines.
2. It is caused by a bacterial infection
3. It is very common during floods

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

5. Consider the following statements with respect to blindness

1. Corneal blindness is characterised by Vitamin-A deficiency
2. Consanguineous marriages can lead to blindness in children
3. Retina problems usually cause day or night blindness and are mostly hereditary

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

6. Consider the following statements about Ballistic Missile Defence System of India

1. It comprises of Prithvi Air Defence (PAD) missile and an Advanced Air Defence (AAD) Missile for high and low altitude interception respectively

2. Consider the following statements about Centre for Wildlife Rehabilitation and Conservation

1. It attends to a wide range of wildlife emergencies resulting from both natural or anthropogenic causes
2. It works under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

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

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

3. Consider the following statements about Sedimentation in Dams

1. 'Total Suspended Solids' is a measure which primarily indicates the level silt washed away in the monsoon rains

2. The PAD makes use of the Swordfish radar to engage aerial targets in the exo-atmosphere

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

7. Consider the following statements about the Safeguards Agreement of WTO

- 1. Safeguard measures are defined as "emergency" actions and hence they cannot be permanent
- 2. It cannot be applied on the Most Favoured Nations (MFN) basis

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

8. Consider the following statements about Non-Banking Financial Companies

- 1. An NBFC should be a company registered under Section 3 of the companies Act, 1956 and should have a minimum net owned fund of Rs. 500 lakh
- 2. NBFC cannot accept demand deposits

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

9. Consider the following statements about Duqm Port

- 1. India has access to this port for military use and logistical support
- 2. It is located in Qatar

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

- a. 1 only

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

10. Consider the following statements about Petroleum Pricing

- 1. Petroleum pricing takes into account only the importing cost of crude and not the exporting cost of the refined fuel
- 2. Refinery Gate Price (RGP) refers to the price which is paid to Oil refiners, who make petroleum products in India

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

## Answers

1. a

- H-4 is a **dependant visa** which is given to immediate family members of persons who hold a H-1B visa. Only the spouse and children (under 21 years of age) of a person holding H-1B visa are eligible for getting H-4 visa
- **H-1B** visa is a **non-immigrant visa** that allows US companies to employ graduate level workers in specialty occupations that require theoretical or technical expertise in specialized fields such as in IT, finance, accounting, medicine etc.
- H-4 visa holders are generally barred from taking up employment opportunities in the U.S. The 2015 executive order permitted the dependents of H-1B visa holders whose Green Card applications are being processed to work in the US. However, the employment status of H-4 visa holders largely remains uncertain

2. a

- It is the only facility in India for hand-raising or treating wild animals that are orphaned or injured and which are then returned to the wild
- It was established in 2002 through a joint-venture by Wildlife Trust of India, the International Fund

for Animal Welfare and the Assam Forest Department

- It is located in Borjuri village adjacent to the Panbari Reserve Forest **near Kaziranga National Park in Assam**

3. c

- Due to the floods and landslips in Kodagu, huge amount of soil got washed away. It led to sedimentation in the Harangi Dam, located on the Harangiriver, a tributary of river Kaveri.
- Using satellite imagery, World Resources Institute (WRI) has found an increase of almost 100 per cent in the Total Suspended Solids which is primarily silt washed away in the monsoon rains
- This had **reduced the water-holding capacity of the Dam drastically**.

4. c

- It is a disease which affects the pepper plantations.
- It is very common in Kerala.
- It is caused by fungi.
- The high humidity and high temperature due to the **drought-like** situation caused multiplication of pathogens like Phytophthora which triggered the disease

5. d

- A recent World Health Organisation (WHO) report has estimated that, across the world, 19 million children are visually impaired and 1.4 million among them are legally blind.
- According to the National Program for Control of Blindness, the number stands at 8 out of 10,000 for childhood blindness in India.
- Consanguineous marriage refers to marriage between two blood-related individuals

6. c

- India is developing a two-tier Ballistic Missile Defence (BMD) system that provides a multi-layered shield against ballistic missile attacks.
- The two-tier system is intended to destroy an incoming missile, at a higher altitude, in the exo-

atmosphere and if that miscarries, an endo-atmospheric interception will take place.

- The BMD system consists of a Prithvi Air Defence (PAD) missile and an Advanced Air Defence (AAD) Missile for **high and low altitude interception**. The PAD intercepts missiles at altitudes between 50km-80km and the AAD missile destroys them at altitudes of 15km-30km.
- Swordfish is a long-range tracking radar developed for the BMD system. It guides the exo-atmospheric interceptor missile PAD to engage aerial targets irrespective of its size

7. a

- Most-favoured-nation (MFN) means treating other people equally.**
- Under the WTO agreements, countries cannot normally discriminate between their trading partners.
- WTO mandates that Safeguard Measures should be applied only on the basis of MFN
- The Agreement also says that safeguard measures may be imposed only when **imports are found to cause or threaten serious injury** to a competing domestic industry. They are **temporary**.

8. b

- A company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 and desirous of commencing business of non-banking financial institution should comply with the following:
  - it should be a company registered under Section 3 of the companies Act, 1956
  - It should have a minimum net owned fund of Rs. 200 lakh.
- An NBFC cannot accept Demand Deposits and cannot issue cheques drawn on itself

9. a

- The Port of Duqm is situated on the southeastern seaboard of **Oman**, overlooking the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean
- India and Oman signed a pact in February, 2018, which gave India access to this strategic port which will act as India's entry point for wider West Asia and Eastern Africa

3. It provides for visit of Indian military vessels to Duqm port in terms of services and the use of the dry-dock for maintenance.

10. b

Oil refiners, who make petroleum products in India, are paid what is called a Refinery Gate Price (RGP) based on the **Trade Parity Price (TPP)** which is a weighted average of the **Import Parity Price (IPP)** and the **Export Parity Price (EPP)**. IPP is the price importers would pay if they **actually imported** the product. So, it includes not just the cost of the fuel itself, but also freight charges, insurance, customs duty and port charges. EPP is what somebody actually exporting the product would get. **IPP has an 80% weight and EPP only 20% in the TPP.**

### 25-09-2018

1. Consider the following statements about Pakyong Airport

- It is the only green-field airport which is part of the UdeDeshKaAamNagrik (UDAN) scheme
- It is a strategically important airport as it is also used for military operations

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

2. Consider the following statements about Spike missile

- It is a supersonic cruise missile
- It operates on fire-and-forget principle
- It will be imported by India from Israel

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

3. Consider the following statements about Hornbills

- They are largely dependent on temperate forest ecosystem and hence not found in South India
- There are totally 9 species of hornbills which are endemic to India
- The Narcondam Hornbill has the smallest range out of all the species

Which of the statement(s) is/ are **not** true?

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

4. Consider the following statements about Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment (GRIHA)

- It is a tool which helps in rating a Protected Area defined under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 based on conservation measures undertaken there
- The rating is given by Ministry of Environment, Forest, Climate Change

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

5. The term 'Total Expense Ratio' is?

- The difference between all receipts and expenses in both revenue and capital account of the government.
- A measure of the total costs associated with managing and operating an investment fund, such as a mutual fund.
- The opportunity cost of taxing at concessional rates through exemptions, rebates, etc.
- The excess amount of Revenue expenditure incurred by the government than what is sanctioned in the budget

6. Consider the following statements about South-South Cooperation

1. It is an initiative of OECD
2. 'South' refers to the developing countries, which are located primarily in the Southern Hemisphere of the earth

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

7. Consider the following statements about National Technical Board on Nutrition

1. It is a statutotry body working under Ministry of Women and Child Development
2. It is an advisory body

Which of the statement(s) is/ are **not** true?

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

8. Consider the following statements about Goods and Services Tax

1. All imports are treated as inter-State supplies and they attract Integrated tax in addition to the applicable Custom duties.
2. Re-import of already exported goods attracts only IGST

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

9. Consider the following statements about Perform Achieve and Trade (PAT) scheme

1. It is a flagship scheme of Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)

2. It is one of the major initiatives under the National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency (NMEEE)
3. It is mandatory for all designated consumers notified by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) to join this scheme

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

10. Consider the following statements about Tiger Conservation

1. The Tiger Summit at St. Petersberg in 2010 adopted the goal of 'T X 2' to double the world's wild tiger population by 2022
2. Nepal is the first country in the world which has achieved the goal of 'T X 2'

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

## Answers

1. b

- It is located in Sikkim. It is the first airport for the state.
- There are other greenfield airports (Kannur, Jharsuguda) which are also part of UDAN
- Pakyong will also serve as an important facility for the Indian Army as the airport lies only 60 km away from India-China border. IAF will be able to land military aircraft at the airport as well.

2 c

- Spike is a third-generation, **fire-and-forget**, man-portable, **anti-tank guided missile** manufactured by **Israel's Rafael**.

- **Fire-and-forget** is a type of missile guidance which does not require further guidance after launch such as illumination of the target or wire guidance, and can hit its target without the launcher being in line-of-sight of the target.
3. b
- Hornbills are large and wide-ranging birds and most species are dependent on tropical forest habitats that contain large and tall trees.
  - India has nine hornbill species, of which four are found in the Western Ghats
  - The Narcondam Hornbill is confined to one island called Narcondam in the Andamans whose size is about 6 sq.km
4. d
- GRIHA is a rating tool that helps people assesses the performance of their building against certain nationally acceptable benchmarks.
  - It evaluates the environmental performance of a building holistically over its entire life cycle, thereby providing a definitive standard for what constitutes a '**green building**'.
  - The tool is adopted by Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
5. b
- TER has a direct impact on their returns. It is a percentage of the returns which is charged by an Investment Manager from the Investor.
  - For example, if a fund charges 2 per cent as the TER, and the fund produces a gross profit (return) of 15 per cent in a given year, the investor would get 13 per cent - which is the gross profit minus the TER – in their hands.
6. b
- South-South cooperation is an initiative of **United Nations Development Programme** which aims to bring in cooperation among the Global South countries which are also referred to as 'Developing Countries'
  - It is a broad framework of collaboration among countries of the South in the political, economic, social, cultural, environmental and technical domains.
- Involving two or more developing countries, it can take place on a bilateral, regional, intraregional or interregional basis.
  - The United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) is a knowledge hub providing advisory and consulting services to all stakeholders on South-South and triangular cooperation.
7. a
- It is a body created under Executive Order
  - It is an advisory body whose recommendations are non-binding in nature.
  - It works under the Ministry of Women and Child Development
  - It recently okayed the Ministry's guidelines for tackling acute malnutrition through community-based initiatives such as Anganwadi centres
8. a
- The import of goods has been defined in the IGST Act, 2017 as bringing goods into India from a place outside India. All imports shall be deemed as inter-State supplies and accordingly Integrated tax shall be levied in addition to the applicable Custom duties.
  - Re-import of exported goods does not attract IGST and Customs duty provided there is assurance given to the Customs Department that the goods will be again re-exported after repairs within six months from the date of re-import.
9. d
10. a
- The 'TX2 goal' was adopted at the St Petersburg Tiger Summit in 2010 to double the world's wild tiger population by 2022
  - Nepal announced that there are now an estimated 235 wild tigers in the country, nearly doubling the baseline of around 121 tigers in 2009. It still has not achieved the goal of 'T X 2'

**26-09-2018**

1. Consider the following statements about REINVEST-2018

1. The first edition of this meet will happen in India in October 2018
2. Its objective is to expedite the adoption of clean technology by global countries

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

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

2. Consider the following statements about Wind Augmentation Purifying Unit (WAYU)

1. It is developed by DRDO along with Ministry of Science and Technology
2. The device works on two principles called Wind generation for dilution of air pollutants and Active Pollutants removal.
3. The prototype of this device has a range of 1000 metres square

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

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

3. Consider the following statements about MAVEN spacecraft

1. It is a mission of NASA
2. It discovered two new types of Martian auroras namely diffuse aurora and proton aurora

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

4. Consider the following statements about Gene Drive Technology

1. It can achieve the propagation of a particular trait of a species to a higher population across many generations than what would have occurred naturally.
2. It cannot take away the reproductive activity of any species

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

5. Consider the following statements about Economic Freedom Index

1. It is released by the World Bank
2. India topped the index among the BRICS countries

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

6. Consider the following statements about Ease of Living Index among states

1. It is an initiative of NITI Aayog
2. The index was topped by Andhra Pradesh
3. The highest weightage in this index is given to the 'social' well-being among other indicators

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

7. Consider the following statements about Jan DhanDarshak

1. It is a mobile application which acts as a citizen-centric platform for locating financial service touch points across all providers such as banks and post office.
2. It was developed by National Informatics Centre

Which of the statement(s) is/ are **not** true?

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

8. Consider the following statements about Asian Development Bank

1. It extends financial support to only governments of member countries
2. The highest decision-making body is Board of Governors, which comprises one representative from each member nation

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

9. Consider the following statements about T- 72 tanks

1. It is a Main Battle Tank
2. The engine for these tanks are indigenously manufactured by the Ordnance Factory Board in India

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

10. The 'Section 57' of Aadhaar Act was abolished by the Supreme Court. Consider the following statements about Aadhaar in this context

1. The unique number is not mandatory to open bank accounts
2. Aadhaar number is mandatory for the filing of IT returns and allotment of Permanent Account Number
3. The unique number is mandatory for availing benefits of social security schemes of the government

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

## Answers

1. b

**RE-INVEST** is a global platform to explore strategies for development and deployment of clean energy renewables.

The **2nd Global RE-INVEST** will build upon the success of RE-INVEST 2015 and provide an international forum to established players as well as new segments of investors and entrepreneurs to engage, ideate and innovate.

The **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy** is organising the **First Assembly of International Solar Alliance (ISA)**, the **2nd Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)**, Renewable Energy Ministerial Meeting and the **2nd Global Renewable Energy Investment Meeting and Expo**, (REINVEST-2018) from 2nd to 5th October 2018 in New Delhi.

2. c

The prototype device that has been indigenously developed has the capacity to purify air in an area of 500 meter square.

It is developed by Council of Scientific and Industrial Research – National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-NEERI) as a part of Technology Development Project being funded by Department of Science and Technology.

3. c

The MAVEN mission was launched by NASA on November 18, 2013, and went into orbit around Mars on September 21, 2014.

It also discovered two new types of Martian auroras — diffuse aurora and proton aurora. Neither type has a direct connection to the local or global magnetic field or to magnetic cusps, as auroras do on Earth.

4. a

- It can achieve the propagation of a particular trait of a species to a higher population across many generations than would have occurred naturally.
- Scientists recently succeeded for the first time in wiping out an entire population of malaria-carrying mosquitos using this technology
- In experiments with the species *Anopheles gambiae*, scientists at Imperial College London tweaked a gene known as doublesex so that more females in each generation could no longer bite or reproduce. After only eight generations, there were no females left and the population collapsed due to lack of offspring.

5. d

- It is given by the Centre for Civil Society (CCS) in conjunction with Canada's Fraser Institute.
- India ranked 96th on this index
- Among BRICS countries, Russia and South Africa are ahead of India at 87th and 94th while China and Brazil are behind at 108th and 144th positions
- The report noted that people living in countries with high levels of economic freedom enjoy greater prosperity, more political and civil liberties, and live longer.

6. b

- It was launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)
- Andhra Pradesh topped the index followed by Odisha and Madhya Pradesh
- All cities were evaluated out of 100. The '**physical pillar (infrastructure)**' was given the highest weightage of 45, while institutional (governance) and social were weighted 25 each. Economy was weighted 5.

7. d

- Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance and National Informatics Centre (NIC) have jointly developed the app Jan DhanDarshak as a part of financial inclusion initiative.

- Jan DhanDarshak app will be in a unique position to provide a citizen-centric platform for locating financial service touch points across all providers such as banks and post office

8. b

ADB's highest policy-making body is the Board of Governors, which comprises one representative from each member nation – 48 from the Asia-Pacific and 19 from outside the region. It is headquartered in Philippines

The clients are basically governments. However, it also provides direct assistance to **private enterprises** of developing member countries through equity investments and loans.

As a multilateral development finance institution, ADB provides:

- loans
- technical assistance
- grants

9. a

- It is a Main Battle Tank
- The engines for T-72 tanks of the Army are imported from Russia under 'Buy & Make' category at an approximate cost of over Rs 2,300 crore
- Post transfer of technology, most of these engines will be manufactured by Ordnance Factories Board (OFB)

10. a

## 27-09-2018

1. Consider the following statements about PRAGATI

1. It is an e-governance tool that brings together Digital data management, video-conferencing and geo-spatial technology
2. It is used for monitoring and reviewing of important programmes and projects of both the Central and State government.

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

2. Consider the following statements about Astra

1. It is a surface- surface missile that can be launched from ground as well as sea
2. It is indigenously developed in India by DRDO

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

3. Consider the following statements about Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS)

1. Navies of the IONS which have been geographically grouped into five sub- regions
2. China and Pakistan are observer countries of this group

Which of the given statements is/ are correct?

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

4. The 'Champions of Earth Award' is given by ?

- a. Greenpeace
- b. UNEP
- c. WWF
- d. IUCN

5. Consider the following species

1. Chinkara
2. Indian Leopard
3. Honey Badger

Which of the following species are classified as Vulnerable by IUCN?

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

6. Consider the following statements about Adultery law in India

1. Adultery can be a ground for divorce but not a criminal offence
2. Adultery can be treated as a crime if it attracts Section 306 (abetment to suicide) of the IPC

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

7. Consider the following statements about Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN)

1. It was established as a 100 per cent government- company to ensure effective implementation of GST
2. It is a Section 8 company under the new Companies Act and hence is a not-for-profit entity.

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

8. Consider the following statements about Impact Bonds

1. It is a performance- based financial mechanism
2. They tend to be risky investments, as they are entirely dependent upon the success of the social outcome

Which of the statement(s) is/ are **not** true?

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

9. Consider the following statements about a Money Bill

1. The Speaker's decision on considering a Bill as a Money Bill is subject to judicial review
2. A Bill can be considered a Money Bill if it contains only all or any provisions given under Article 110(1) of the Constitution

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

10. The N.N Vohra Committee is related to which of the following?

- a. To assess the environmental damage to Eastern Ghats
- b. Crimailisation of Politics
- c. Data Localisation and Right to Privacy
- d. UPSC reforms

## Answers

1. c

- PRAGATI (Pro-Active Governance And Timely Implementation) is a multi-purpose and multi-modal platform existing in the Prime Minister's Office which apart from addressing common man's grievances, does monitoring and reviewing of important programmes and projects of the **Central and State Governments**.
- The PRAGATI platform bundles three latest technologies: Digital data management, video-conferencing and geo-spatial technology. It brings on one stage the Secretaries of Government of India and the Chief Secretaries of the States.

2. b

- Astra is an indigenously developed **Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile (BVRAAM) by DRDO**
- It was test-fired by the Sukhoi 30 aircraft

3. d

The 'Indian Ocean Naval Symposium' (IONS) is a voluntary initiative that seeks to increase maritime co-

operation among navies of the littoral states of the Indian Ocean Region by providing an open and inclusive forum for discussion of regionally relevant maritime issues

The member countries are organised into four groups based on their geography They are

- **South Asian Littorals** - Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Pakistan, Seychelles and Sri Lanka
- **West Asian Littorals** - Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, UAE and Yemen
- **East African Littorals** - Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, France, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan and Tanzania
- **South East Asian and Australian Littorals** - Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand and Timor Leste

China is an observer country while Pakistan is a full-time member

4. b

- The Champions of the Earth award is the United Nations highest environmental honour recognizing visionary people and organisations all over the world that exemplify leadership and advocate action on sustainable development, climate change and a life of dignity for all.
- The **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)** invites nominations from individuals and organizations who exemplify leadership and advocate action on sustainable development and climate change at the national, regional and global levels.

5. b

- In a recently conducted leopard population estimation in Karnataka, the **first-ever** documentation of the honey badger was made.
- Honey Badger and Chinkara are classified as Least Concern according to IUCN

6. b

The Supreme Court recently struck down Adultery as an offence under Section 497 of the Indian Penal Code. It also ruled that

- Mere adultery can't be a crime unless it attracts the scope of Section 306 (abetment to suicide) of the IPC
- Adultery can be ground for civil issues including dissolution of marriage but it cannot be a criminal offence

7. b

- Currently, the Centre and states together hold **49 per cent stake** in the GST Network. The remaining **51 per cent** is held by **five private financial institutions**
- The Cabinet cleared a proposal to convert GST Network (GSTN), which provides IT infrastructure for the new indirect tax regime, into a 100 per cent government-owned company

8. d

- Impact Bonds, an outcome-based finance mechanism
- In impact bonds, the risk investor chooses for funding the project with a small return on investment.
- What works for donors is that they pay only if the programme meets the pre-decided outcome. This ensures that the service providers, namely the NGOs, get working capital to meet the objectives.

9. c

Article 110 (3) lays down that “if any question arises whether a Bill is a Money Bill or not, the decision of the Speaker of the House of the People thereon shall be final”.

But in the recent Aadhar judgment, the SC noted that the decision of the Speaker to classify a bill as Money bill is amenable to judicial review.

10. b

**28-09-2018**

1. Consider the following statements about India-United Nations Sustainable Development Framework (UNSDF)

1. It outlines the work of UN agencies in India in supporting the achievement of key development outcomes aligned to national priority
2. It has the same deadline as that of UN Sustainable Development Goals

3. NITI Aayog is the national counterpart for the UN in India for the operationalization of the framework

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

2. Consider the following statements about Dibrusaikhawa National Park

1. It is located in Arunachal Pradesh
2. It is the only place in India where Feral Horses are found
3. The Lohit river passes through this National Park

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

3. The Climate Finance Leadership Initiative is an initiative of?

- a. UNEP
- b. Global Environment Facility
- c. G 7
- d. Friends of the Earth

4. Consider the following statements about Consumer Durables

1. These refer to goods which do not need frequent replacements
2. The share of Consumer Durables in the Index of Industrial Production is the least among others

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

- d. Neither 1 nor 2
- c. A is true but R is false
- d. A is false but R is true
5. Consider the following statements about Liquidity Coverage Ratio
1. It is designed to ensure that banks hold a sufficient reserve of high-quality liquid assets (HQLA) to allow them to survive a period of significant liquidity stress lasting 90 days.
  2. It is mandated through the Basel- III norms
- Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?
- a. 1 only
  - b. 2 only
  - c. Both 1 and 2
  - d. Neither 1 nor 2
6. Which of the following is/ are the objective(s) of Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER)?
1. To replace conventional farming/subsistence farming system into local resource based, self sustainable, high value commercial organic enterprise
  2. Development of organic parks/zones
  3. Developing crop specific organic production clusters with necessary infrastructural, technical and financial support
- Select using the codes given below.
- a. 1 only
  - b. 1 and 2 only
  - c. 2 only
  - d. 1, 2, 3
7. Assertion (A) - Freedom to practise one's own religion is an absolute Fundamental Right under Article- 25
- Reason (R) - It is available to both citizens and Friendly Aliens of India
- Select the right option from below.
- a. Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
  - b. Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
- c. A is true but R is false
- d. A is false but R is true
8. Consider the following statements about Border Infrastructure and Management (BIM)
1. It is being implemented in 17 states having the international borders Pakistan, China, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar and Bangladesh.
  2. It is jointly implemented by Ministry of Road Transport and Highways and Indian Army
- Which of the statement(s) is/ are **not** true?
- a. 1 only
  - b. 2 only
  - c. Both 1 and 2
  - d. Neither 1 nor 2
9. Consider the following statements about MINERVA-II1
1. It is the world's first rover to land on the surface of an asteroid.
  2. It was launched by Japanese space agency
- Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?
- a. 1 only
  - b. 2 only
  - c. Both 1 and 2
  - d. Neither 1 nor 2
10. Consider the following statements about Major Atmospheric Cerenkov Experiment (MACE) Telescope
1. It will enable study of cosmic gamma-rays between 20 and 100 GeV, and beyond 5 Tev which are energy ranges so far unexplored
  2. It is manufactured by Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) and to be set up Hanle, Ladakh
- Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?
- a. 1 only
  - b. 2 only
  - c. Both 1 and 2
  - d. Neither 1 nor 2

## Answers

1. C

- Government of India-United Nations Sustainable Development Framework (SDF) **2018-2022** outlines the work of UN agencies in India, to support the achievement of key development outcomes that have been identified in consultation with the government and are aligned to the national priorities
- It is a framework for the period till 2022. The deadline for UN SDGs is 2030
- The NITI Aayog is the national counterpart for the UN in India for the operationalization of the UNSDF. Nineteen UN agencies have signed on the UNSDF 2018-2022.
- The UNSDF 2018-22 comprises of **seven priority areas**
  - Poverty and Urbanization
  - Health, Water, and Sanitation
  - Education and Employability
  - Nutrition and Food Security
  - Climate Change, Clean Energy, and Disaster Resilience
  - Skilling, Entrepreneurship, and Job Creation
  - Gender Equality and Youth Development.

2.b

- It is located in the state of Assam
- It is the home of the only population of feral horses in India and houses several riverine islands of Lohit river which are identified as Important Bird Area by Birdlife International
- A proposed 1750MW Demwe Lower hydroelectric project in Arunachal Pradesh to be constructed on river Lohit is meeting heavy oppositions from environmental activists
- It is said to affect the neighbouring Dibru Saikhowa National Park
- Feral Horse is classified as 'Endangered' by IUCN

3. a

- The initiative will draw members from top international financial firms and corporations

to catalyse scaled-up investments in clean energy and climate resilience projects around the world, in both developed and emerging markets.

- The initiative will have a one-year term culminating in a UN Climate Summit to be held in September 2019.
- The Climate Finance Leadership Initiative will work closely with the government of France in supporting its presidency of the G7 in 2019, and will provide a first report to G7 Finance Ministers by July 2019.

4. a

These refer to goods which do not need frequent replacements and can be used for a longer period e.g. garments, telephones, passenger vehicles, etc.

Weightage of items in the IIP Use- Based Classification is given below. The least is held by Capital Goods.

New Series (base 2011-12)	Item Group	Weight
Primary goods	15	34.05
Intermediate goods	110	17.22
Capital goods	67	8.22
Infrastructure/construction goods	29	12.34
Consumer durables	86	12.84
Consumer nondurables	100	15.33
<b>Total</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>100</b>

5. b

According to the Basel III norms, banks are required to keep enough high-quality liquid assets to survive an acute stress scenario lasting for 30 days. (includes Cash, including foreign currency, Cash beyond CRR, G-Sec beyond SLR, Marketable securities backed by PSE, Multilateral development banks, Foreign Governments.)

The RBI said 13 per cent of the SLR would now be calculated for the LCR purpose. This means that banks now have an additional 2 per cent of their deposit base freed up for their use.

6. d

7. d

- Fundamental Rights are not absolute rights. They are subject to certain Reasonable Restrictions such as Public Order, Morality, Decency, etc.
- Article 25 is available to citizens of India as well as friendly aliens

8. b

- It is an umbrella scheme of Ministry of Home Affairs
- The Centre has approved Rs 8,606 crore for 60 projects in 17 states having the international borders with Pakistan, China, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar and Bangladesh.
- The schemes include construction of roads, schools, primary health centres, promotion of rural tourism, border tourism, promotion of sports activities, cleanliness mission, protection of heritage sites, supply of drinking water, community centres, connectivity, drainage, to enable sustainable living in border areas,

9. c

- MINERVA-II1 is ‘the world’s first man-made object to explore movement on an asteroid surface’ It was launched by JAXA, the Japanese space agency
- The MINERVA-II1 consists of two rovers, Rover-1A and Rover-1B.
- Both rovers landed on the surface of asteroid Ryugu.

10.a

- The Electronics Corporation of India Limited (ECIL) is executing the entire project.
- It is a 21-meter instrument would enable the study of high energy cosmic gamma-ray sources
- It will be the world's largest telescope at the highest altitude and is being established at Hanle, Ladakh

**29-09-2018**

1. Consider the following statements about Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) initiative

1. Its objective is to promote the use of Compressed Bio-Gas as an alternate transport fuel
2. It is an initiative of Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

2. Consider the following statements about Uzbekistan

1. It is one of the countries sharing border with the Caspian Sea
2. Pakistan and Afghanistan are its neighbours

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

3. The first city in India to launch a Flood Forecasting System is?

- a. Kolkata
- b. Mumbai
- c. Dehra Dun
- d. Guwahati

4. Consider the following statements about Wetlands

1. The Global Wetland Outlook was recently launched by Wetland International
2. According to Ramsar Convention, a Wetland can be either a natural or an artificial site but has to be permanent

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

- a. 1 only

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

5. Consider the following statements about LIDAR

- 1. It is a remote-sensing technique which is capable of producing 3- D maps of natural or man-made environments
- 2. It was recently used to discover an ancient kingdom in the tropical lowlands of Mexico

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

6. Consider the following statements about 'Swachh Iconic Place' recognition

- 1. It is a coordinated project of M/o Drinking Water and Sanitation, M/o Housing and Urban Affairs, M/o Culture, and M/o Tourism
- 2. All Iconic Sites have PSUs or corporates for extending support to new sites as CSR partners

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

7. Consider the following statements about 'Common Risk Mitigation Mechanism'

- 1. It is an initiative by International Solar Alliance (ISA)
- 2. It will act as a pooled insurance with limited liability for de-risking and reducing the financial cost of solar projects among member countries of the ISA.
- 3. It is managed by the Global Environment Facility

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

- a. 1 and 2 only

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

8. Consider the following statements about State Disaster Response Fund

- 1. It is set up as per provisions given under the Disaster Management Act 2005
- 2. The ratio of centre- state contribution to this fund is 75:25 and 90:10 for general and special category states respectively.

Which of the statement(s) is/ are **not** true?

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

9. Consider the following statements about Cyber Shikshaa

- 1. Under this programme, training programs are conducted for women engineering graduates for imparting the requisite technical skills in the domain of Cyber Security.
- 2. It is an initiative of Data Security Council of India (DSCI) and Google in association with Ministry of Electronics and IT

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

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

10. Consider the following statements about Livestock Census in India

- 1. The ultimate responsibility for conducting the Livestock Census rests with the Animal Husbandry Departments of the States/UTs.
- 2. The Centre provides 100 per cent financial assistance for conducting the Livestock Census.

Which of the statement(s) is/ are true?

- a. 1 only

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

## Answers

1. c

- The SATAT initiative of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas is aimed at providing a Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) as a developmental effort that would benefit both vehicle-users as well as farmers and entrepreneurs.
- This initiative holds great promise for efficient municipal solid waste management and in tackling the problem of polluted urban air due to farm stubble-burning and carbon emissions
- Bio-gas is produced naturally through a process of anaerobic decomposition from waste / bio-mass sources like agriculture residue, cattle dung, sugarcane press mud, municipal solid waste, sewage treatment plant waste, etc.
- After purification, it is compressed and called CBG, which has pure methane content of over 95%.

2. d



Uzbekistan does not share border with Caspian Sea. It shares border with Afghanistan but not Pakistan.

3. a

- The Kolkata Municipal Corporation, with the support of the Asian Development Bank launched the country's first flood forecasting and early-warning system
- It will provide real-time data on inundation, rainfall intensity, temperature, air quality and other climate-related data

4. a

- The report is published by Ramsar Convention
- Ramsar Convention on Wetlands define wetlands as: "areas of marsh, fen, peatland or water, whether natural or artificial, permanent or temporary, with water that is static or flowing, fresh, brackish or salt, including areas of marine water the depth of which at low tide does not exceed six metres".

5. a

- Archaeologists have uncovered more than 61,000 ancient Mayan structures swallowed by overgrowth in the tropical lowlands of **Guatemala** the laser mapping technology lidar.
- LIDAR, which stands for Light Detection and Ranging, is a remote sensing method that uses light in the form of a pulsed laser to measure ranges (variable distances) to the Earth.
- A LIDAR instrument principally consists of a laser, a scanner, and a specialized GPS receiver.

LIDAR systems allow scientists and mapping professionals to examine both natural and manmade environments with accuracy, precision, and flexibility

6. c
- Charminar was declared as a Swachh Iconic Place in 2017 under Phase II of this project
  - The goal of the Initiative is to improve the cleanliness conditions at the declared places to a distinctly higher level

This initiative is in partnership with Ministries of Urban Development, Tourism and Culture with Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation being the nodal ministry.

7. a

- It has been taken over by the World Bank

- The objective of CRMM is de-risking and reducing the financial cost of solar projects in ISA-member countries.
  - CRMM will act as a pooled insurance with limited liability.
  - Banks and multi-lateral institutions can contribute to the fund for a marginal premium.
  - This will lower the cost of capital for developing renewable energy projects.
8. b
- The Centre has enhanced its contribution in the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) from 75 per cent to 90 per cent (even general category states will get 90 per cent of Centre's contribution ) with effect from April.
  - Under the Disaster Management Act 2005, a financial mechanism has been set up by way of National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) at the national level and SDRF at the state level to meet the rescue and relief expenditure of disaster-affected states.
9. a
- Microsoft & Data Security Council of India (DSCI) in association with Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY) are launching Project **Cyber Shiksha for skilling women engineering graduates** in the niche field of Cyber Security.
- As part of this program, C-DAC, MeitY's premier R&D institution for the design, development and deployment of electronic and ICT technologies, would be conducting training programs exclusively for women and making them Industry ready by imparting the requisite technical skills in the domain of Cyber Security.
10. c
- The aim of Livestock Census is to collect detailed information on livestock population category wise along with age, sex-composition, etc.
  - The ultimate responsibility for conducting the Livestock Census rests with the Animal Husbandry Departments of the States/UTs. The Central Government coordinates the work of the States and gives necessary guidance to ensure uniformity in collection of census data.
  - It is 100 per cent centrally- funded