



Daily Current Affairs Prelims Quiz 10-01-2022 - (Online Prelims Test)

1) Consider the following statements regarding the state of Haryana:

1. Haryana is present between the Sutlej and Beas rivers and the Aravalli hill range.
2. It came under the British control as a result of the Treaty of Amritsar, 1809 signed between East India Company and Maharaja Ranjit Singh.
3. Asiatic Lions found only in Gujarat today, were also found in the State of Haryana during the British Rule.

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

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

Answer : b

Between 1809 and 1823, hundreds of Asiatic lions were killed in today's Haryana by British officers, soldiers and Indian princes aligned with them.

Haryana

- Haryana today is a primarily agrarian landscape between the Sutlej and Yamuna rivers and the Aravalli hill range.
- But in the first three decades of the nineteenth century, the state was home to arid savannahs and dense scrub jungle where lions, leopards and tigers cohabited.

The Treaty

- The area known as Haryana came under British control as a result of a treaty signed in 1809 between the East India Company and the Sikh Empire of Maharaja Ranjit Singh.
- The Sutlej river was declared the border between the two sides, which they were expected to respect and not cross.
- The British-era Haryana territories today cover the state of Haryana and the regions of Malwa and Puad in southern Punjab (between the Sutlej and Ghaggar rivers).
- At the time, these also included the Cis-Sutlej princely states of Patiala, Nabha, Jind, Kaithal and Thanesar.

Asiatic Lion

- Today, the Asiatic lion (*Panthera Leo persica*) is singularly identified with the Gir forest of Kathiawar and is the symbol of Gujarati Asmita.
- But history was very different. These lions ranged across the western, central and northwestern part of the Indian subcontinent, including the present-day state of Haryana,

reveals a recent academic paper.

2) Consider the following statements:

1. It is the smallest of the large wild cats.
2. They are categorized as 'Vulnerable' by the IUCN.
3. They have rotating rear ankles making them avid climbers.

Identify the species.

- a. Clouded Leopard
- b. Black Panther
- c. Bengal Tiger
- d. Snow Leopard

Answer : a

In a first in India, rare clouded leopard spotted in Nagaland mountains.

Clouded Leopard

- Clouded leopards are known for its spotted coat and inhabit in the primary evergreen rainforests.
- Clouded leopards roam the hunting grounds of Asia from the rain forests of Indonesia to the foothills of the Nepali Himalayas.
- It is categorized as vulnerable by the IUCN.

Arboreal Adaptation

- Arboreal animals are very well adapted to staying or hanging on to trees.
- Most cats are good climbers, but the clouded leopard is near the top of its class.
- These big cats can even hang upside down beneath large branches, using their large paws and sharp claws to secure a good grip.
- Clouded leopards have short, powerful legs equipped with rotating rear ankles that allow them to safely downclimb in a headfirst posture—much like a common squirrel.
- Sharp eyesight helps them judge distances well, and the cats use their long tails to maintain balance.

3) Consider the following statements:

1. A Bhikku is the female priest in Buddhist monasticism.
2. Both the Male and Female priests are members of the Sangha.
3. The lives of all Buddhist monastics are governed by a set of rules called the Pratimoksa.

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

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

Answer : d

The bhikkhus of a Buddhist monastery in the 152-year-old ChalapatherShyamgaon had bemoaned the near-extinction of bhungloti, a creeper that in combination with the pith of

the roots of a jackfruit tree yielded a saffron dye for their robes.

Bhikkhus

- Bhikkhu literally means "beggar" or "one who lives by alms".
- In the Dhammapada commentary of Buddhaghosa, a bhikkhu is defined as "the person who sees danger in samsara or cycle of rebirth".
- He therefore seeks ordination to obtain release from it.
- A bhikkhu is an ordained (to make somebody a priest) male in Buddhist monasticism.
- Male and female monastics are members of the Sangha (Buddhist community).
- The lives of all Buddhist monastics are governed by a set of rules called the pratimoksa or patimokkha.
- Their lifestyles are shaped to support their spiritual practice: to live a simple and meditative life and attain nirvana.
- A person under the age of 20 cannot be ordained as a bhikkhu or bhikkhuni but can be ordained as a Sramanera or Sramaneri.
- Buddha accepted female bhikkhunis after his step-mother Mahapajapati Gotami organized a women's march to Vesali.
- Buddha requested her to accept the Eight Garudhammas.
- So, Gotami agreed to accept the Eight Garudhammas and was accorded the status of the first bhikkhuni.
- Subsequent women had to undergo full ordination to become nuns.

4) Consider the following statements:

1. The Peru or the Humboldt current is a cold water current of the southeast Pacific Oceans.
2. At warmer temperatures, smaller fish species became dominant and they push back important food fish.

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

Answer : c

Tipping point in Humboldt Current off Peru leads to species shift.

Humboldt Current

- Peru Current, also called Humboldt Current, cold-water current of the southeast Pacific Ocean, with a width of about 900 km.
- It is an eastern boundary current similar to the California Current of the North Pacific.

The Study

- Fundamental changes in the ocean, such as warming, acidification or oxygen depletion, may have significant consequences for the composition of fish stocks, including the displacement of individual species.
- Researchers have reconstructed environmental conditions of the warm period 125,000 years ago (Eemian interglacial) using sediment samples from the Humboldt Current System off Peru.
- They were able to show that, at warmer temperatures, mainly smaller, goby-like fish species became dominant and pushed back important food fish such as the anchovy

(Engraulisringens).

- The trend is independent of fishing pressure and fisheries management.
- According to the study, the greater warming of the Humboldt Current System as result of climate change has more far-reaching implications for the ecosystem and the global fishing industry than previously thought.

5) Consider the following statements regarding the Treaty of Amritsar:

1. The treaty was concluded between the French and Maharaja Ranjit Singh in 1809.
2. The treaty settled Indo-Sikh relations and fixed the frontier of lands controlled by Ranjit broadly along the line of the Sutlej River.

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

Answer : b

Treaty of Amritsar, 1809

- Treaty of Amritsar, (April 25, 1809), pact concluded between Charles T. Metcalfe, representing the British East India Company, and Ranjit Singh, head of the Sikh kingdom of Punjab.
- The treaty settled Indo-Sikh relations for a generation.
- The immediate occasion was the French threat to northwestern India, following Napoleon's Treaty of Tilsit with Russia (1807) and Ranjit's attempt to bring the Cis-Sutlej states under his control.
- The British wanted a defensive treaty against the French and control of Punjab to the Sutlej River.
- Although this was not a defensive treaty, it did fix the frontier of lands controlled by Ranjit broadly along the line of the Sutlej River.