



Prelims Practice Questions 04-01-2019

1) Consider the following statements

1. The retirement age of a judge of a High Court is 65.
2. A Bill, which sought to increase the retirement age of High Court judges needs to be ratified by at least 50% of the states.

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

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

Answer : b

- The retirement age of Supreme Court judges is 65 and of High Court judges is 62.
- Those provisions of the Constitution which are related to the federal structure of the polity can be amended by a special majority of the Parliament and also with the consent of half of the state legislatures by a simple majority.
- The following provisions can be amended in this way:

1. Election of the President and its manner.
2. Extent of the executive power of the Union and the states.
3. Supreme Court and high courts.
4. Distribution of legislative powers between the Union and the states.
5. Any of the lists in the Seventh Schedule.
6. Representation of states in Parliament.
7. Power of Parliament to amend the Constitution and its procedure (Article 368)

2) Consider the following statements about *Clause 6 of Assam Accord*

1. It was inserted to protect, preserve and promote the culture and heritage of the "Assamese people".
2. It provides complete constitutional, legislative and administrative safeguards to protect their socio-political rights.

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

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

Answer : a

- Clause 6 reads: "Constitutional, legislative and administrative safeguards, **as may be appropriate, shall be provided** to protect, preserve and promote the cultural, social,

linguistic identity and heritage of the Assamese people.” .

- However Clause 6 of the Assam Accord **has not been fully implemented** even almost 35 years after the Accord was signed.
- So the Cabinet recently approved the setting up of a High Level Committee to suggest constitutional, legislative and administrative safeguards as envisaged in Clause 6 of the Assam Accord.

3) “*Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI)*” was published by which of the following organisations?

- a. UN Environment Programme (UNEP)
- b. Conservation International
- c. UN framework convention on climate change (UNFCCC)
- d. German watch

Answer : d

The ***Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI)*** is an annual publication by **Germanwatch** and Climate Action Network Europe.

4) “*Forest Reference Level (FRL) Report*” was sometimes seen in the news recently, is associated with which of the following?

- a. UN forum on Forests
- b. Project Tiger
- c. UN convention to combat desertification
- d. REDD+

Answer : d

- A national forest reference (emission) level (FRL) is one of the elements to be developed by developing country Parties implementing **REDD+** activities.
- As a first step towards accessing the potential fund flows under REDD+, countries are required to set a baseline level of greenhouse emissions being emitted due to deforestation or prevented from escaping into the atmosphere by conserving and growing forests. This is referred to as the Forest Reference Level or FRL.
- *Recently, UNFCCC has raised doubts over India’s claim of increase in forest cover, citing lack of transparency in India’s FRL report.*

5) Consider the following statements with respect to Change-4 Mission

1. It is China’s mission to explore the dark side of the Moon.
2. Since the moon's revolution cycle is the same as its rotation cycle, one half of the moon will never expose to sunlight, resulted in the dark zone of Moon.
3. With this mission, China has now joined U.S, Russia, EU and India who have made a soft landing on the moon.

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

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

Answer : a

- Change-4 is a Chinese space probe landed on the dark side of the Moon.
- Since the moon's revolution cycle is the same as its rotation cycle, the same side always faces Earth.

- The other face, **most of which cannot be seen from Earth, is called the far side or “dark side” of the Moon**, not because it is dark, but because most of it is uncharted.
- This is the first-ever **soft landing** on the dark side of the Moon.
- With this mission, China has now joined the **U.S. and the former USSR** as the only countries to have made a **“soft landing”** on the moon.

6) “World Development Report” was released by which of the following organisations?

- International Monetary Fund
- World Bank
- World Economic Forum
- Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

Answer : b

- The **World Development Report** (WDR) is an annual report published since 1978 by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) or **World Bank**.
- *The recently released **World Development Report (WDR) 2019: the Changing Nature of Work**, studies how the nature of work is changing as a result of advances in technology today.*

7) Consider the following statements with respect to Kadaknath Chicken

1. It was also known as Kali Masi Chicken, traditionally reared by Jhabua adivasi communities of Odisha.
2. Its feathers, flesh and even bones are black in colour.
3. It was granted Geographical Indication (GI) tag in 2018.

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

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

Answer : c

- Kadaknath or **Kali Masi** (fowl with black flesh) is a unique breed of chicken that is **completely black in colour**.
- It is completely black with black legs, beak, tongue, comb and wattles.
- Apart from its meat, its **bones and most organs are also black in colour**.
- The chicken, traditionally reared by **Jhabua’s adivasi communities of Madhya Pradesh**, was granted a **Geographical Indication (GI) tag** by the government registry **last year**.

8) “The Von Karman Crater” was sometimes seen in the news recently, is located in which of the following?

- Mount Etna
- The Moon
- Anak Krakatoa
- Ultima Thule

Answer : b

- The Chinese probe **Change-4** which has a lander and a rover, touched down at a targeted area near the **Moon’s South Pole in the Von Karman Crater**.

9) Consider the following statements with respect to Western Disturbances

1. It originates over the Mediterranean Sea, Caspian Sea and Black Sea and move eastwards across north India.

2. They are brought into India by the easterly jet stream.

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

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

Answer : a

- According to IMD glossary, western disturbance is a weather disturbances noticed as cyclonic circulation/trough in the mid and lower tropospheric levels or as a low pressure area on the surface, which occur in middle latitude westerlies.
- It originates over the **Mediterranean Sea, Caspian Sea and Black Sea** and move eastwards across north India.
- The western cyclonic disturbances which enter the Indian subcontinent from the west and the northwest during the winter months are brought into India by the **westerly jet stream**.
- An increase in the prevailing night temperature generally indicates an advance in the arrival of these cyclones disturbances.

10) "Astana Declaration" is related to which of the following?

- a. Road safety
- b. Reduction of HFCs
- c. Trans-boundary air pollution in South Asia
- d. Primary Health Care

Answer : d

- In October 2018, at Astana, Kazakhstan, world leaders declared their commitment to '**Primary Health Care**'.
- This declaration reaffirms the historic 1978 Declaration of Alma-Ata.
- Alma-Ata Declaration was the first declaration which identified Primary Health Care as a key to the attainment of the goal of Health for All.
- The Astana Declaration aims to meet all people's health needs across the life course.
- This would be through comprehensive preventive, promotive, curative, rehabilitative services and palliative care.