



### Daily Current Affairs Prelims Quiz - 14-11-2019 - (Online Prelims Test)

1) Consider the following statements with respect to *Asia-Pacific Rural and Agricultural Credit Association (APRACA)*

1. It is a regional association that represents 81 member institutions from 21 countries including India.
2. It is the world's premier research organization dedicated to reducing poverty and hunger through rice science.

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

- *Asia-Pacific Rural and Agricultural Credit Association (APRACA)*, representing 81 member institutions from 21 countries, is a regional association that promotes cooperation and facilitates mutual exchange of information and expertise in the field of rural finance.
- Over the years it has developed a repository of knowledge in managing and serving rural financial institutions, financial inclusion and to help avert financial risks and improve efficiency.
- *6th World Congress on Rural and Agriculture Finance* was jointly organised by *National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)* and *Asia - Pacific Rural Agricultural and Credit Association (APRACA)* recently.
- The **International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)** is the world's premier research organization dedicated to reducing poverty and hunger through rice science; improving the health and welfare of rice farmers and consumers; and protecting the rice-growing environment for future generations.

2) Consider the following statements with respect to *Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2005*

1. RTI is applicable to the whole of India including Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.
2. While the office of the Chief Justice of India (CJI) is under the RTI's ambit, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is exempt.

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 : c

- Supreme Court has recently ruled that the **office of the Chief Justice of India (CJI)** is a **public authority** under the **Right to Information (RTI) Act**.

- While the office of the CJI is now under the RTI's ambit, the **CBI is exempt**.
- As Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act became operational on October 31, 2019 the **central RTI Act** became applicable in J&K and Ladakh.

3) Consider the following statements with respect to *Negative interest rates*

1. These are rates that are charged on the principal and on previously earned interest retrospectively.
2. It leads to a condition where a saver is paying for parting with cash and a borrower is being perversely incentivised to borrow more.

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 : b

- A negative interest means the instead of the bank paying you money to keep in the savings account, you pay the bank to do so.
- It also means that anyone can borrow money from the bank and pay back less than what he borrowed.
- Negative interest rates are expected to make consumers save less and spend more; they are also expected to make banks lend more.
- In essence, negative interest rates are expected **to boost economic activity** when all other efforts fail.

4) Consider the following statements

1. A person disqualified under the Tenth Schedule of the Indian Constitution is eligible to contest in re-election to that constituency.
2. As per the existing constitutional mandate, the Speaker is not empowered to disqualify any member for the entire term of the House.

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 : c

- The Supreme Court has recently upheld the disqualification of 17 dissident Congress and Janata Dal (Secular) legislators by then Karnataka Assembly Speaker K.R. Ramesh Kumar under the Tenth Schedule (anti-defection law) but held that **their ouster was no bar to contesting re-polls**.
- Neither under the Indian Constitution nor under the statutory scheme it is contemplated that disqualification under the Tenth Schedule would operate as a bar for contesting re-elections.
- In the light of the existing constitutional mandate, the Speaker is not empowered to disqualify any member till the end of the term.

5) Consider the following statements

1. Houses under the 'Banglar Abas' scheme was allocated by clearing acres of mangrove forest in this Island.
2. The very severe cyclone Bulbul made landfall recently at this Island.

Identify the Island that correctly matches with the above description:

- a. Havelock Island
- b. Diu Island
- c. Sagar Island
- d. Majuli Island

Answer : c

6) Consider the following statements with respect to *Space*

1. Gravity is present everywhere, even in space.
2. There is no air in space and it is almost a perfect vacuum.

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 : c

- When you drop a pen on Earth, it falls to the ground. This is because of the gravitational pull of the planet.
- This gravity is everywhere, even in space.
- It is gravity that holds moon in orbit around Earth and Earth around the sun.
- It also keeps the sun in the Milky way.
- Gravity causes every object to pull every other object towards it. However, the effect of gravity decreases as distance increases.
- At extreme distances, the gravitational pull of an object exerted on another could be almost zero, but never totally absent. This is called microgravity.

**Then, why do objects float in orbit?**

- Because they are in free fall. There is no air in space. It is almost a perfect vacuum.
- In a vacuum, gravity causes all objects to fall at the same rate, irrespective of their mass.
- Earth's gravity is still pulling down on astronauts or spacecraft or space station in orbit.
- A spacecraft counters Earth's downward pull by maintaining enough horizontal speed to continually slide sideways as it simultaneously falls towards the planet.
- The continuous free fall around the planet gives astronauts the impression of being weightless and floating.

7) Consider the following statements with respect to *Emperor penguin*

1. These are endemic to Antarctica.
2. These are the tallest and heaviest of all living penguin species.

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 : c



8) Consider the following statements with respect to *World Congress on Rural and Agricultural Finance*

1. The 6th edition of the meeting was held recently in Nairobi, Kenya.
2. It is being jointly hosted by Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development.

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

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

Answer : d

- The **6th World Congress** is being jointly hosted by **Asia-Pacific Rural and Agricultural Credit Association (APRACA)**, **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)** and Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India.
- This 6th version of the congress was attended by 300 delegates across the globe who engaged in interactive discussions to unleash the potential role of rural and agricultural finance.

9) Consider the following statements regarding the composition of the council of ministers:

1. Deputy Ministers are not members of the Cabinet.
2. Parliament secretaries often hold the rank of the Minister of State.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer : c

10) Which of the following are Temperate Grasslands?

1. Steppes
2. Pampas
3. Savannas
4. Downs

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Answer : c

- Savannas are Tropical Grasslands.

