



# IAS PARLIAMENT

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A Shankar IAS Academy Initiative

## MONTHLY PRESTORMING

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**Shankar IAS Academy™**

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## INDEX

01-06-2019.....	3
03-06-2019.....	5
06-06-2019.....	8
07-06-2019.....	10
08-06-2019.....	13
10-06-2019.....	16
11-06-2019.....	18
12-06-2019.....	21
13-06-2019.....	25
15-06-2019.....	27
17-06-2019.....	30
18-06-2019.....	32
19-06-2019.....	35
20-06-2019.....	38
21-06-2019.....	41
22-06-2019.....	44
24-06-2019.....	47
25-06-2019.....	50
26-06-2019.....	53
27-06-2019.....	55
28-06-2019.....	58
29-06-2019.....	61



**01-06-2019**

1) Consider the following statements with respect to *Neglected Diseases*

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

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

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

1) Consider the following statements with respect to *Orangutans*

1. There are three species of orangutans — Bornean, Indian and Sumatran Orangutan.
2. All three kinds of orangutans are listed as critically endangered by International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

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

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

2) *Nanda Kanan Zoo* sometimes seen in the news recently is located in which of the following states?

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

3) Statement I: The Preamble of the Indian Constitution embodies the basic values of Political, moral and religious on which the Constitution is based.

Statement II: The Preamble is source power to the Legislatures in India and its provisions are enforceable in courts of law.

select the correct answer using the codes given below.

Codes:

- a. Both the statements are individually true and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I
- b. Both the statements are individually true but Statement II is not the correct explanation of statement I
- c. Statement I is true but Statement II is false
- d. Statement I is false but Statement II is true

4) Consider the following statements with regards to the “Inflation” in an economy

1. During high Inflationary times the Repo rate will be increased by the Reserve Bank of India to increase the money supply and to tame the inflation
2. Sale of Government securities is carried out in the open market by the Central Bank to control the Inflation

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

5) The primary objective of “Public Finance Management System”, which was in News recently, is

- a. To monitor the Central Government Schemes
- b. To manage the Internal Debt of the Country
- c. To take actions on the Non Performing Assets of the Public Sector Banks



d. To revive the loss making Public Sector Undertakings

6) With reference to the 'National Green Tribunal (NGT)', consider the following statements

1. The Tribunal is bound by the procedure laid down under the Code of Civil Procedure as well as the Principles of Natural Justice.
2. The Chairman of the tribunal is required to be a retired judge of the Supreme Court of India.
3. The tribunal is mandated to make and endeavour for disposal of applications or appeals finally within 6 months of filing of the same.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

7) With reference to the 'Public Accounts Committee', consider the following statements

1. It is constituted by the Parliament of India every year for the auditing of the Public revenue and expenditure.
2. The Chairman of the committee is appointed by the Speaker of Lok Sabha.
3. The Union Finance Minister is also eligible to be elected as a member of this Committee.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

8) Which of the following are the cold ocean currents?

1. Labrador current
2. Kuroshio current
3. Benguela current

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

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

9) Recently there were severe militant activities surrounding the Black Sea. In this context consider the following countries

1. Russia
2. Armenia
3. Ukraine
4. Turkey

Which of the given above countries border the Black Sea?

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

10) Which one of the following is *not* headed by the Prime Minister of India?

- a. Interstate council
- b. Nuclear Command Authority
- c. National Ganga River Basin Authority
- d. Zonal council

### Answers

1. b

- Orangutans are *not native to India*.

- According to the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), there are three species of orangutans – Bornean, Sumatran and **Tapanuli**.
  - Identified as the third species of orangutan in November 2017 is the Tapanuli orangutan.
  - All three kinds of orangutans are listed as “Critically Endangered” by the United Nations-affiliated International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).
2. b
- Recently, India’s only orangutan which was brought from Singapore was died in Nanda Kannan Zoo, Odisha.
3. c
- The Preamble is not the source power to the Legislatures in India and its provisions are not enforceable in the courts of law.
4. b
5. a
- PFMS is an electronic fund tracking mechanism compiles, collates and makes available in real-time, information regarding all government schemes.
  - Besides, it will significantly provide government real-time information on resource availability and utilization across schemes.
  - In addition it allow government expenditure to adopt a Just-in- Time (JIT) approach, with payments made only when they are needed.
6. c
- The NGT is not bound by the procedure laid down under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, but shall be guided by principles of natural justice.
  - The Chairperson of the NGT is a retired Judge of the Supreme Court, Head Quartered in Delhi.
  - Other Judicial members are retired Judges of High Courts. Each bench of the NGT will comprise of at least one Judicial Member and one Expert Member.
  - Expert members should have a professional qualification and a minimum of 15 years experience in the field of environment/forest conservation and related subjects.
- The Tribunal's dedicated jurisdiction in environmental matters shall provide speedy environmental justice and help reduce the burden of litigation in the higher courts.
  - The Tribunal is mandated to make and endeavour for disposal of applications or appeals finally within 6 months of filing of the same.
7. b
- A minister cannot be a member of PAC.
8. b
9. b
10. d
- Union Home Minister is the head of these zonal councils.
- 03-06-2019**
- 1) Consider the following statements with respect to *Kandukuri Veeresalingam***
- 1. He was a strong advocate of widow remarriage, opposed dowry and caste systems as also child marriage and batted for empowering women through education.**
  - 2. Even though he was forward-looking in his outlook and was ahead of his times, he advocated bigotry and superstitious beliefs.**
- Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?**
- a. 1 only
  - b. 2 only
  - c. Both 1 and 2
  - d. Neither 1 nor 2
- 2) With reference to *Foot and Mouth Diseases (FMD) of animals*, consider the following statements:**
- 1. This disease is common amongst cow-bulls, buffaloes, sheep, goats and pigs.**
  - 2. There is no specific treatment for such diseases.**



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

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

3) *Bhuvan App* sometimes seen in the news recently was launched in collaboration with?

- Indian Space Research Organisation
- Defence Research and Development Organisation
- Indian Meteorological Department
- Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre

4) Consider the following statements with respect to *Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi*

- Under the Scheme, Rs. 6,000 will be given per year in three instalments.
- It will be provided to all eligible farm families irrespective of the size of their land holdings.

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

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

5) Consider the following statements with respect to *Pradhan Mantri Kisan Pension Yojana*

- Under the scheme, small and marginal farmers will get a minimum fixed pension of 3,000 rupees per month on attaining the age of 60 years.
- The beneficiaries should be in the age group of 18 to 40 years.

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

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

6) *Kasturirangan committee* sometimes seen in the news recently was associated with which of the following?

- New Education Policy
- Reforms on Panchayati Raj
- New National Health Policy
- None of the above

7) With reference to the Schedules of the Indian Constitution, which one of the following statements is correct?

- Eighth Schedule deals with Official languages of the State
- Second Schedule deals with Forms or Oaths for the Constitutional posts
- Twelfth Schedule deals with Cooperative Societies
- Ninth Schedule deals with Land reforms and abolition of the Zamindari system

8) Which of the following are the tributaries of Kaveri River?

- Bhavani
- Kabini
- Hemavati
- Palar

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

9) In which among the following Nuclear reactor, fission chain reaction is sustained by fast neutrons itself so that it doesn't need a neutron moderator but uses a fuel that is relatively rich in fissile material?

- Heavy water reactor
- Fast Breeder reactor
- Fast neutron reactor
- Pressurized Heavy Water reactor

10) Which of the following statements regarding the Sunspots is not correct?

- Sunspots are darker, cooler areas on the surface of the sun in a region called the photosphere
- Sunspots can be very large, up to 50,000 kilometers in diameter
- The Sunspots have a higher temperature than the photosphere
- Sunspots are temporary phenomena on the photosphere of the Sun

## Answers

- a
  - Kandukuri Veeresalingam** was an eminent social reformer popularly known as **Andhra Raja Ram Mohan Roy**.
  - He was a strong advocate of widow remarriage, opposed dowry and caste systems as also child marriage and batted for empowering women through education.
  - He was forward-looking in his outlook and was ahead of his times and he was **against bigotry and superstitious beliefs**.
- c
  - The Cabinet has recently cleared a special scheme for controlling foot and mouth diseases of animals.
  - The Foot and Mouth diseases are common amongst cow-bulls, buffaloes, sheep, goats and pigs.
  - There is **no specific treatment**, however symptomatic treatment can be done to speed up recovery and to avoid complications.
- a
  - Bhuvan app has been designed in collaboration with **ISRO**.
  - It will provide geo time location and documentation.
- c
  - The Union Cabinet in its first meeting approved three other welfare schemes, namely, Pradhan Mantri Kisan Pension Yojana, a pension scheme for traders.
  - It was also decided to extend the **PM Kisan Scheme to all eligible farm families irrespective of the size of their land holdings**.
  - Earlier the benefit of the scheme was applicable to farmers having two hectares of land.
- Former ISRO chief Dr. Kasturirangan led Committee submitted the draft **National Educational Policy (NEP)** to HRD Minister.
  - The policy draft recommends incorporation of Indian knowledge systems in the curriculum, constituting a National Education Commission and curbing arbitrary fees hikes by private schools.
- d
  - Former ISRO chief Dr. Kasturirangan led Committee submitted the draft **National Educational Policy (NEP)** to HRD Minister.
  - The policy draft recommends incorporation of Indian knowledge systems in the curriculum, constituting a National Education Commission and curbing arbitrary fees hikes by private schools.
- c
  -
- c
  -



**06-06-2019**

**1) Global Economic Prospects (GEP) Report was recently published by which of the following organizations?**

- UN General Assembly
- World Bank
- World Economic Forum
- International Monetary Fund

**2) Consider the following statements with respect to *National Statistical Office (NSO)***

- It will be created by merging the Central Statistical Office (CSO) and National Sample Survey Office (NSSO).**
- It will be headed by the Union Minister for Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).**

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

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

**3) For which of the following purposes, *RODRA Website* was launched recently?**

- Defence Personnel Welfare
- Real Estate grievances
- Grievances related to Election Results
- None of the above

**4) Consider the following statements with respect to *Global Disability Summit***

- The 2nd edition of Global Disability Summit is being held at Buenos Aires, Brazil.**
- The objective of the summit is to deliberate on issues across the world concerning empowerment and inclusion of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs).**

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

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

**5) *Karikiyoor Rock Paintings* sometimes seen in the news recently was found in which of the following states?**

- Kerala
- Maharashtra
- Tamil Nadu
- Madhya Pradesh

**6) Consider the following statements with respect to *Jal Sakthi Ministry***

- It was created by merging Ministry of water resources, River development and Ganga Rejuvenation alone.**
- Its main priority is to provide safe drinking water to People.**

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

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

**7) Consider the following statements with respect to *India Meteorological Department (IMD)***

- It is also mandated to detect and locate earthquakes and to evaluate seismicity in different parts of the country for development projects.**
- It works under the Ministry of Earth Sciences.**

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

- 1 only

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

**8) Consider the following pairs**

1. Salalah Port – Oman
2. Sabang Port – Yemen
3. Fujairah Port – U.A.E

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

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

**9) Mahao Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which of the following states?**

- a. Arunachal Pradesh
- b. Assam
- c. Maharashtra
- d. Jammu and Kashmir

**10) Which one of the following pairs of islands is separated from each other by the 'Ten Degree Channel'?**

- a. Andaman and Nicobar
- b. Nicobar and Sumatra
- c. Maldives and Lakshadweep
- d. Sumatra and Java

**Answers**

1. b

- Recently, *World Bank* has released the *Global Economic Prospects (GEP) Report*.
  - The other reports released by World Bank are as follows
1. Ease of Doing Business
  2. World Development Report

3. Remittance Report
4. Ease of Living Index
5. India Development Update
6. Universal Health Coverage Index
7. The Service Trade Restriction Index.

2. a

- Union government has announced that the *National Sample Survey Office (NSSO)* will be merged with the *Central Statistics Office (CSO)* to form the National Statistical Office (NSO).
- The NSO will be headed by the *Secretary* of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI).

3. a

- Manpower Planning (MP) Directorate has launched a website called Retired Officers Digital Records Archive (RODRA, rodra.gov.in) to overcome lack of digitization and non-availability of latest address and contact details of veterans.
- Manpower Planning (MP) Directorate is responsible for custody and maintenance of approximately 1.2 Lakh service records of serving and retired officers of the Indian Army.
- Some of the facilities extended to veterans through website are updating of records, Registration and tracking of documents/pension related grievances.

4. b

- The 2nd Global Disability Summit is going to be held at *Buenos Aires, Argentina* during 6-8 June 2019.
- The objective of the summit is to deliberate on issues across the world concerning empowerment and inclusion of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) and to work out a mechanism for enabling them to live an independent and dignified life.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Global Disability Summit was held in 2018 at London.

5. c

- 5,000 year old rock paintings are found Karikiyoor at Kil Kotagiri in the *Nilgiri forests of Tamilnadu*.

- The society that painted the symbols onto these rocks were contemporaneous with the Indus Valley civilisation (IVC).
- The rock paintings in Karikiyoor contain analogous-Indus script, meaning they resemble the script found in Indus civilization sites of northern India.
- Members of the Irula tribal community have an ancestral link to the site.
- The rock paintings serve both, as a “historical record,” detailing the hunting habits and ways of life of the local communities, and also a ritualistic purpose.

6. b

- Union government has created a new ministry, Jal Shakti to provide safe drinking water to people.
- It has been created by reorganizing the earlier **Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation**.
- **Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation** has also been added to it.
- Jal Shakti ministry will ensure clean water and top class irrigation water facilities for the farmers.

7. c

8. c

- Sabang Port is located in **Indonesia**.

9. a

- **Mahao Wildlife Sanctuary** located in Lower Dibang Valley district of **Arunachal Pradesh**.

10. a

**07-06-2019**

1) Consider the following statements with respect to **Cabinet Committees**

1. They are not mentioned in the Constitution.
2. Non-cabinet ministers are debarred from the membership of Cabinet Committees.

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

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

2) Consider the following statements with respect to **NITI Aayog**

1. It is neither a constitutional body nor a statutory body.
2. No minister will be a member of NITI Aayog.

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

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

3) Consider the following statements with respect to **Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY)**

1. Under the scheme, priority will be given to girl child, women and senior citizens.
2. All states in India have joined this flagship health protection scheme.

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

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

4) India has recently notified the **Tax Information Exchange Agreement (TIEA)** with which of the following countries?

- a. Seychelles
- b. Mauritius
- c. Madagascar

d. Marshall Islands

5) *Remdesivir* is an anti-viral drug which may help fight off Nipah virus is originally designed to treat which of the following diseases?

- Malaria
- MERS coronavirus
- Ebola
- Zika Virus

6) Consider the following pairs

- Kinnal Toys – Karnataka
- Etikoppaka toys – Andhra Pradesh
- Thanjavur Doll – Tamilnadu

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

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

7) *Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START)* sometimes seen in the news recently is a treaty between which of the following?

- USA and USSR
- North Korea and South Korea
- Russia and NATO Countries
- Israel and Palestine

8) Which of the following countries are *not* the members of *G20 Grouping*?

- Argentina
- India
- Russia
- USA

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- 3 only

b. 1 and 3 only

c. 1, 2 and 3 only

d. None

9) Assertion (A): Plaster of Paris heals bone fracture.

Reason (R): Plaster of Paris forms fresh connective tissue cells and fill in the cracks in the bone.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- Both A and R are correct and R is the correct explanation of A
- Both A and R are correct but R is not the correct explanation of A
- A is correct but R is not correct
- Both A and R are not correct

10) The *Inter State Council* was set up in 1990 on the recommendation of?

- Punchhi Commission
- Sarkaria Commission
- Rajamannar Commission
- Mungerilal Commission

## Answers

1. a

- They are extra-constitutional in emergence. In other words, they are **not mentioned in the Constitution**.
- However, the Rules of Business provide for their establishment.
- They usually **include only Cabinet Ministers**.
- However, the non-cabinet Ministers are not debarred from their membership.**

2. a

- NITI Aayog is **neither a constitutional body nor a statutory body**.

- Governing Council: It comprises the Chief Ministers of all the States, Chief Ministers of Union Territories with Legislatures (i.e., Delhi and Puducherry) and Lt. Governors of other Union Territories.
  - *The newly reconstituted NITI Aayog will have Union Ministers Amit Shah, Rajnath Singh, Nirmala Sitharaman, and Narendra Singh Tomar as **ex-officio members**.*
3. b
- Under the Scheme, Government provides health insurance cover of up to Rs. 5,00,000 per family per year.
  - More than 10.74 crore poor and vulnerable families (approximately 50 crore beneficiaries) covered across the country.
  - All families listed in the SECC database as per defined criteria will be covered.
  - No cap on family size and age of members.
  - **Priority to girl child, women and senior citizens.**
  - Free treatment available at all public and empaneled private hospitals in times of need.
  - Covers secondary and tertiary care hospitalization.
  - *Three States (Odisha, Telangana, and West Bengal) and one Union Territory (Delhi) are yet to join the Government of India in implementing AB-PMJAY.*
4. d
- India has recently notified a Tax Information Exchange Agreement (TIEA) with the **Marshall Islands**.
  - This agreement was signed on 18th March, 2016 at Majuro, the Republic of the Marshall Islands.
  - The Agreement enables exchange of information, including banking and ownership information, between the two countries for tax purposes.
  - It is based on international standards of tax transparency and exchange of information and enables sharing of information on request.
- The Agreement also provides for representatives of one country to undertake tax examinations in the other country.
  - The Agreement will enhance mutual co-operation between India and Marshall Islands by providing an effective framework for exchange of information in tax matters which will help curb tax evasion and tax avoidance.
5. c
- In a significant development, an experimental antiviral drug **Remdesivir** designed to treat **Ebola virus disease** can effectively help fight off Nipah virus.
  - Though Ebola and Nipah belong to different viral families, remdesivir appears effective against both.
  - **Remdesivir** has also shown to be effective against two other pandemic threats: **Lassa fever and MERS coronavirus**, and also against respiratory syncytial virus.
6. d
- Kinnal Toys – Karnataka
  - Etikoppaka toys – Andhra Pradesh
  - Thanjavur Doll – Tamilnadu
7. a
- START (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty) was a bilateral treaty between the **Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) and the United States of America** on the limitation and reduction of strategic offensive arms.
  - It caps the number of nuclear warheads well below Cold War limits.
  - Recently Russian President accuses US of shunning talks on extending the nuclear arms reduction treaty (START), which expires in 2021.
8. d
- G20 is made up of 19 countries and the European Union (EU).
  - The 19 countries are: **Argentina**, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, **India**, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, The **Russian Federation**, Saudi

Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and the **United States**.

- The G20 members represent two-thirds of the world's people and 85 percent of its economy.

9. d

- Plaster of Paris **cannot heal a bone fracture**.
- The blood clots immediately around the injured surface inside the bone.
- Healing begins on its own within a few hours of the fracture.
- Fresh connective tissue cells form and multiply rapidly.
- Calcium accumulates in these cells which fill in the crack in the bone by the third day.
- A few weeks later, the fractured bone heals and becomes normal hard bone.
- To ensure adequate supply of calcium, the doctor may prescribe calcium tablets.
- The **only purpose served by the plaster is to keep the broken edges of the bone in alignment and to immobilise the limb**.
- In villages, this is achieved by using wooden splints.

10. b

**08-06-2019**

1) Which of the following is/are not the objective(s) of Food Corporation of India (FCI)?

- To provide effective price support to farmers.
- To procure and supply grains to PDS for distributing subsidized staples to economically vulnerable sections of society.
- To keep a strategic reserve to stabilize markets for basic food grains.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- 3 only
- 1 and 3 only

c. 2 and 3 only

d. 1, 2 and 3

2) **Torishima Island** sometimes seen in the news recently is located in which of the following countries?

- China
- South Korea
- Japan
- New Zealand

3) A party is recognised as a national party if, which of the following conditions is fulfilled?

- If it secures six per cent of the valid votes polled in the state at a general election to the legislative assembly of the state concerned.
- If it is recognised as a state party in four states.
- If it secures eight per cent of the total valid votes polled in the state at a General Election to the Lok Sabha from the state or to the legislative assembly of the state.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

4) Consider the following statements with respect to **National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)**

- It is a statutory body set up in 2007 under Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005.
- The Commission shall not enquire into any matter which is pending before a State Commission or any other Commission duly constituted under any law for the time being in force.

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

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

5) Arrange the following from North to South:

- Sea of Okhotsk
- Sea of Japan
- Yellow Sea
- East China Sea

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

6) *Raman 1.0* sometimes seen in the news recently is a?

- India's new Space Telescope
- Food testing Device
- National level Science Competition
- None of the above

7) With respect to the country *Sudan*, Consider the following statements:

- It is a landlocked country in Central Africa.
- The Equator passes through Sudan.

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

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

8) Consider the following statements with respect to *Kailash Sacred Landscape*

- Mount Kailash and Lake Mansarovar are part of the Kailash Sacred Landscape.
- The landscape spreads across a vast region comprising parts of the Tibet Autonomous Region of China, India and Nepal.
- The landscape is also the origin of four of Asia's major rivers – the Indus, Sutlej, Brahmaputra and the Karnali.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- 1 and 3 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3
- None

9) To keep our skin moisturised and soft, our bodies produce a natural oil called sebum. What can occur when too much sebum is produced?

- Acne
- Hair growth
- Loss of sensation
- None of the above

10) Corruption Perceptions Index is annually released by

- Transparency International
- World Bank
- World Economic Forum
- Amnesty International

**Answers**

1. d

- FCI is mandated with three basic objectives:
  - To provide effective price support to farmers

2. To procure and supply grains to PDS for distributing subsidized staples to economically vulnerable sections of society
3. To keep a strategic reserve to stabilize markets for basic food grains.

2. c

3. a

- At present, a party is recognised as a national party **if any** of the following conditions is fulfilled:
  1. If it secures six per cent of valid votes polled in **any four or more states** at a general election to the Lok Sabha or to the legislative assembly; and, in addition, it wins four seats in the Lok Sabha from any state or states; or
  2. If it wins two per cent of seats in the Lok Sabha at a general election; and these candidates are elected from three states; or
  3. **If it is recognised as a state party in four states.**
    - In its recent order, the ECI has said that the National People's Party (NPP) was given the national party status for fulfilling conditions such as polling more than 6% of the total votes in the last general election and being recognised as a State party in at least four States.
    - The NPP is recognised as a State party in Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya and Nagaland.

4. c

- The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has been constituted by the Government of India, under the Commission for **Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005** to exercise and performs the powers and functions assigned to it under CPCR Act, 2005.
  - The commission consist of a **Chairperson** who, is a person of eminence and has done a outstanding work for promoting the welfare of children; and **Six members.**
  - The Commission shall **not enquire** into any matter which is pending before a State Commission or any other Commission duly

constituted under any law for the time being in force.

5. c

6. b

- Recently, Union Minister for Health and Family Affairs has launched a new-age, hand-held **battery operated device** called '**Raman 1.0**'.
- This device performs rapid detection (in less than 1 minute) of economically driven **adulteration** in edible oils, fats and ghee.

7. d



8. c

- Recently, UNESCO has included the **Indian part of the Kailash Sacred Landscape**, a trans-boundary region lying across **India, Nepal and China**, on its tentative list of World Heritage Sites.
- Mount Kailash and Lake Mansarovar are part of the Kailash Sacred Landscape.
- The landscape spreads across a vast region (over 31,000 sq km) comprising parts of the Tibet Autonomous Region of China, India and Nepal.



- It is characterised by snow-clad mountains, high-altitude lakes and several religious and cultural sites.
- The landscape is also the origin of four of Asia's major rivers – the Indus, Sutlej, Brahmaputra and the Karnali.

9. a

- Sebaceous glands secrete an oily substance called sebum.
- This helps to protect the skin from the outside environment.
- Too much sebum can contribute to several problems, including **acne**, oily skin, or an oily scalp.

10. a

**10-06-2019**

1) Consider the following statements with respect to *International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM)*

1. It is an intergovernmental organisation responsible for matters related to measurement science and measurement standards.
2. It works under the auspices of the United Nations (UN).
3. India is a member country to BIPM.

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

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

2) If the 2015 Paris Agreement commitment on global temperature rise is not followed, climate scientists suggest a scenario by 2050, a “tipping point” beyond which our planet's natural processes trigger uncontrollable warming. Name the scenario?

- a. Hothouse Earth scenario
- b. Water sheet scenario

- c. Green Glass Phenomenon
- d. None of the above

3) *Mula* and *Mutha* rivers flow in which of the following states?

- a. Kerala
- b. Assam
- c. Tamilnadu
- d. Maharashtra

4) Which of the following countries have recently adopted the *National Strategy for Wellbeing 2031*?

- a. Bhutan
- b. U.A.E
- c. Japan
- d. China

5) Which of the following is not a greenhouse gas?

- a. Ozone
- b. Nitrous oxide
- c. Nitrogen
- d. Water Vapour

6) With reference to the “Union Public Service Commission”, consider the following statements

1. An individual ministry or department has no power to reject the advice of the UPSC
2. It is not concerned with the cadre management and training.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

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

- Kerala
- Karnataka
- Tamilnadu
- Telangana

8) The National Foundation for Communal Harmony is under the administrative control of

- Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- Ministry of Home Affairs
- Ministry of Minority Affairs
- Prime Minister's office

9) With reference to the Right to Information Act (RTI), consider the following statements

- The applicant shall give reasons for seeking information.
- The first appeal has to be filed with the senior officer of concerned Public Information Officer within 90 days.
- Failing the first appeal, the second appeal shall be filed with the State Information Commission only.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

10) Which of the following is the main function of the Central Vigilance Commission of India?

- To keep a watch on the investigation agencies of the country
- To expedite the disposal of criminal cases pending in the courts
- To scrutinize the utilization of development funds as sanctioned by the Government

d. To inquire or cause an inquire of alleged offence of a public servant

### Answers

1. c

- The International Bureau of Weights and Measures, also called BIPM, is an **intergovernmental organisation** with 60 member states, responsible for matters related to measurement science and measurement standards.

2. a

- Hothouse Earth** is a term used to describe a scenario in which human activity causes a higher global temperature than at any time during the past 1.2 million years, due to a breakdown in the feedback loops that regulate the planet's temperature.

- Losing these safeguards would make **warming largely beyond our control**, no matter how much we subsequently reduced our greenhouse gas emissions.

3. d

- The **Mula** and **Mutha** rivers are the integral part of the history and culture of **Pune, Maharashtra**.

- Both the rivers are now identified by the Central Pollution Control Board among 300-plus polluted rivers in the country.

- For the Pollution Abatement of Rivers Mula-Mutha, Central Government has signed a loan agreement with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) in the year 2015.

- The total cost of the project is Rs. 990 crore rupees.

- This will be shared in the ratio of 85:15 between Central Government and the Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) respectively.

4. b

- The **UAE** Cabinet have recently adopted the **National Strategy for Wellbeing 2031** during its meeting at the Presidential Palace in Abu Dhabi.

5. c
- Carbon dioxide, methane, and **water vapour** are the most important greenhouse gases.
  - To a lesser extent, surface-level **ozone, nitrous oxides**, and fluorinated gases also trap infrared radiation.
6. c
- The Jurisdiction of UPSC can be extended by an act made by the Parliament.
  - Only the Appointment Cabinet Committee can reject the advice by UPSC not by single ministry.
  - Cadre management and training is dealt by DoPT for IAS.
7. b
- **Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary**, also known as Pakshi Kashi of Karnataka, is a bird sanctuary in the Mandya District of the state of **Karnataka** in India.
8. b
- NFCH, an autonomous organization with the **Ministry of Home Affairs**, seeks to promote Communal Harmony and National Integration. Among others, its activities include granting financial support for rehabilitation of child victims of communal, caste, ethnic or terrorist violence.
9. c
- There is no need to give reasons for seeking information.
  - The first appeal has to be filed with the senior officer of concerned Public Information Officer within 90 days.
  - Failing the first appeal, the second appeal can be filed with both Central Information commission as well as the State Information commission.
10. d
- The Central Vigilance Commission was set up by the Government in February, 1964 on the recommendations of the Committee on Prevention of Corruption, headed by Shri K. Santhanam, to advise and guide Central Government agencies in the field of vigilance.
- CVC is conceived to be the apex vigilance institution, free of control from any executive authority, monitoring all vigilance activity under the Central Government and advising various authorities in Central Government organizations in planning, executing, reviewing and reforming their vigilance work.
- 11-06-2019**
- 1) With respect to *Bharat Stage (BS) norms*, consider the following statements:**
1. **BS I was introduced in 2000 by the Central Pollution Control Board under the Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.**
  2. **BS VI refers to the sixth stage of the Bharat Stage Emission norms that will come into effect from 1 April 2020.**
  3. **BS norms are applicable to all two wheelers, three wheelers, four wheelers and construction equipment vehicles.**
- Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?**
- a. 2 only
  - b. 1 and 2 only
  - c. 2 and 3 only
  - d. 1, 2 and 3
- 2) Consider the following statements with respect to *Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI)***
1. **It is a not for profit company registered under section-25 of Companies Act, 1956.**
  2. **It works under the administrative control of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).**
- Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?**
- a. 1 only
  - b. 2 only
  - c. Both 1 and 2



d. Neither 1 nor 2

3) Which of the following countries shares border with Atlantic Ocean?

1. Namibia
2. Mali
3. Angola
4. Gabon

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

4) The Central Public Works Department (CPWD) has recently directed its officials to explore the possibility of installing “solar trees” in residential complexes of government employees. *Solar Trees* mentioned here refers to?

- a. A tree like structure made up of photovoltaic cells
- b. Trees planted in a specific pattern to capture more sunlight
- c. Gene edited tree samplings which can survive even in arid regions
- d. Trees when on fire give more energy than conventional trees

5) Consider the following statements with respect to *Central Public Works Department (CPWD)*

1. It looks after the maintenance of central government buildings and erecting of fences on the country’s international borders.
2. It comes under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

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

- a. 1 only

b. 2 only

c. Both 1 and 2

d. Neither 1 nor 2

6) Which of the following animals have been listed in *Schedule V* of Wildlife Protection Act, 1972?

1. Mice
2. Fruit bats
3. Black Buck
4. Pangolin
5. Common crow

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

7) *Forest Dieback* in environmental studies refers to?

- a. Re-growth of forests after full degradation
- b. Progressive degradation of forests
- c. Growth of forests after secondary succession
- d. None of the above

8) Consider the following statements with respect to *Ocean Plastics Charter* sometimes seen in the news recently

1. It is an UN agreement outlining concrete steps to eradicate plastic pollution.
2. It is a non-binding agreement called on participating countries to commit to making all plastics reusable, recyclable or recovered by 2030.
3. India is a signatory to this charter.

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

- a. 2 only

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

9) Consider the following statements regarding the State of Tripura

1. It is surrounded by Bangladesh on its three sides
2. It also shares its border with the states of Assam and Mizoram
3. The Tropic of Cancer is passing through this state.

Which of the given above statements is/are correct?

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

10) 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

### Answers

1. d

- Bharat Stage norms are the automotive emission norms which the automotive manufacturers have to comply to sell their vehicles in India.
- BS I was introduced in 2000 by the **Central Pollution Control Board** under the

Union **Ministry of Environment**, Forests and Climate Change.

- BS VI refers to the sixth stage of the Bharat Stage Emission norms that will come into effect from 1 April 2020.
- BS norms are applicable to **all** two wheelers, three wheelers, four wheelers and construction equipment vehicles.
- *Bharat Stage-VI (BS - VI) norms for two-wheelers have been released recently.*

2. b

- Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd" (SECI) is a CPSU under the administrative control of the **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)**.
- It is the only CPSU dedicated to the solar energy sector.
- It was **originally incorporated as a section-25 (not for profit) company** under the Companies Act, 1956.
- However, through a Government of India decision, the company has recently been converted into a **Section-3 company under the Companies Act, 2013**.
- The mandate of the company has also been broadened to cover the entire renewable energy domain.

3. c



4. a

- Solar Power Tree is a structure that is **designed like a tree** with branches made of steel to hold the **photovoltaic panels**.

5. c

The **Central Public Works Department (CPWD)**, which comes under the Union **Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry**, also looks after the maintenance of central government buildings and erecting of fences on the **country's international borders**.

6. c

- The Goa government will look into the demand of farmers to declare certain wild animals as vermin for a certain period of the year.
- "Vermin" means any wild animal specified in Schedule V of WPA.
- Schedule V animals are
  1. Rats
  2. Mice
  3. Fruit bats
  4. Common crow

7. b

- Forest dieback is a condition in which trees or group of neighbouring trees progressively die from the top downward, resulting in large areas of severely degraded forest.
- **Forest dieback** is when a large number of trees or an entire forest **suddenly dies often without an obvious cause**.
- Factors that may lead to forest diebacks include **drought, temperature changes, pathogens, parasites or pollution such as acid rain**.

8. a

- The Ocean Plastics Charter **championed by Canada** and endorsed by the **European Union, France, Germany, Italy and the United Kingdom** at the G7 Summit in 2018.
- It is a landmark agreement outlining concrete steps to eradicate plastic pollution.
- The Charter recognises the need for urgent action by all sectors of society to address and prevent the far-reaching devastating impacts

of marine litter on the health and sustainability of our oceans, seas and coastal communities.

- The **United States and Japan did not join the pact**.
- The **non-binding** Ocean Plastics Charter called on participating countries and the EU to commit to making all plastics reusable, recyclable or recovered by 2030.

9. d

10. c

- The council of ministers consists of three categories of ministers, namely, cabinet ministers, ministers of state, and deputy ministers.
- The difference between them lies in their respective ranks, emoluments, and political importance.

**12-06-2019**

**1) With respect to Foreigners Tribunal, consider the following statements:**

1. **Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964, is applicable to the whole country and is not specific to any state.**
2. **The powers to constitute such foreigners tribunal were vested only with the Centre.**

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

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

**2) Consider the following statements with respect to Pradhan mantri Jan Vikas Karykram (PMJVK)**

1. **It seeks to provide better socio economic infrastructure facilities to the minority communities.**
2. **The beneficiaries under the scheme include both religious and linguistic minorities.**

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

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

3) With respect to *Appointments Committee*, consider the following statements

1. It decides all higher level appointments in the Central Secretariat, Public Enterprises, Banks and Financial Institutions.
2. It will be headed by the Home Minister.

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

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

4) Consider the following statements with respect to *Defence Space Research Agency (DSRO)*

1. It has been entrusted with the task of creating space warfare weapon systems and technologies.
2. It will provide research and development support to the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

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

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

5) Consider the following statements with respect to *Speaker Pro Tem*

1. Usually, the senior most member is selected as *Speaker Pro Tem*.
2. The President him/herself administers oath to the *Speaker Pro Tem*.

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

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

6) Consider the following statements with respect to *Defence Space Agency (DSA)*

1. It has been created to develop an ecosystem to fight wars in space.
2. It comprises members from all the three services.

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

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

7) Consider the following statements with respect to *Binturongs*

1. They are nocturnal and sleep during the day high up in the canopy.
2. They use its tail as a fifth limb for support when climbing trees and also to hang upside down from branches.
3. They were found in South and South East Asia including India.

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

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



**8) Which of the following committees is often described as a “Super Cabinet”?**

- The Political Affairs Committee
- The Economic Affairs Committee
- The Appointments Committee
- The Parliamentary Affairs Committee

**9) VG Kannan Committee sometimes seen in the news recently was constituted to?**

- Increase non-tax revenue
- Review the ATM pricing
- Investigate intra-banking frauds
- Study Western Ghats for neutrino lab

**10) Which of the following crops can be grown in both kharif and Rabi seasons in India?**

- Rice
- Wheat
- Groundnut
- Jowar

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answers**

1. a

- The Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964 was issued by the Central Government under Section 3 of The Foreigners Act, 1946.
- It is applicable to the whole country.
- Major amendments in the Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964 were undertaken in 2013.
- The last amendment was issued in May, 2019.

- All these orders are applicable to the whole country and are **not specific to any state**.
- The MHA has recently amended the Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964, and has empowered **district magistrates in all States and Union Territories** to set up tribunals to decide whether a person staying illegally in India is a foreigner or not.
- Earlier**, the powers to constitute tribunals were vested only with the Centre.

2. a

- Pradhan mantri Jan Vikas Karykram (PMJVK)** seeks to provide better socio economic infrastructure facilities to the minority communities particularly in the field of education, health & skill development.
- It would further lead to lessening of the gap between the national average and the minority communities with regard to backwardness parameters.
- As far as PMJVK is concerned, the communities notified as minority communities under Section 2 (c) of the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992 would be taken as Minority Communities.
- At present 6 (six) communities namely **Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Buddhists, Zoroastrians (Parsis) and Jains** have been notified as Minority Communities under Section 2 (c) of the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992.

3. a

- The following four are the more important cabinet committees:

  - The **Political Affairs Committee** deals with all policy matters pertaining to domestic and foreign affairs.
  - The **Economic Affairs Committee** directs and coordinates the governmental activities in the economic sphere.
  - Appointments Committee** decides all higher level appointments in the Central Secretariat, Public Enterprises, Banks and Financial Institutions.
  - Parliamentary Affairs Committee** looks after the progress of government business in the Parliament.

- The **first three committees are chaired by the Prime Minister** and the last one by the Home Minister.
  - Of all the Cabinet Committees, the most powerful is the **Political Affairs Committee**, often described as a **Super-Cabinet**.
4. a
- Prime Minister headed Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) has recently cleared a proposal to set up a new agency for developing sophisticated weapon systems and technology for space warfare.
  - The new agency will be called **Defence Space Research Agency (DSRO)** and will be responsible for creating space warfare weapons systems under the Defence Space Agency (DSA).
  - It has been entrusted with the task of creating space warfare weapon systems and technologies.
  - The DSRO will be aided by a team of scientists which will work closely with the staff officers of the integrated tri-services.
  - The agency will provide research and development support to the **Defence Space Agency (DSA)**, created to develop an eco-system to fight wars in space.
5. c
- The Speaker of the last Lok Sabha vacates his office immediately before the first meeting of the newly-elected Lok Sabha.
  - Therefore, the President appoints a member of the Lok Sabha as the Speaker *Pro Tem*.
  - Usually, the **senior most member** is selected for this.
  - The **President himself administers oath** to the Speaker *Pro Tem*.
  - The Speaker *Pro Tem* has all the powers of the Speaker.
  - He presides over the first sitting of the newly-elected Lok Sabha.
  - His main duty is to administer oath to the new members.
- He also enables the House to elect the new Speaker.
  - When the new Speaker is elected by the House, the office of the Speaker *Pro Tem* ceases to exist.
  - Hence, this office is a temporary office, existing for a few days.
  - *Recently, Virendra Kumar was appointed as the Pro-tem Speaker of the Lok Sabha.*
6. c
- Defence Space Agency (DSA) was created to develop an eco-system **to fight wars in space**.
  - The DSA comprises members of the **three armed services** – the Indian Navy, Air Force and Army.
  - It is being set up in Bengaluru under an officer with the rank of air vice-marshal and is set to take over the space related activities of the three services.
7. d
- Binturongs are **nocturnal and sleep during the day** high up in the canopy.
  - It is a mammal found in the rainforest canopy throughout **South and South-East Asia, including in North-Eastern India**.
  - They use its tail as a fifth limb for support when climbing trees and also to hang upside down from branches.
  - They are carnivores, eating small mammals, birds, fish and fruit.
  - Binturongs can swim well and have good eyesight both at night and during the day.
  - Binturongs have no known predators other than humans.
  - It has been listed as **Vulnerable** under the IUCN Red list.
8. a
- Of all the Cabinet Committees, the most powerful is the **Political Affairs Committee**, often described as a **Super-Cabinet**.
9. b



- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has set up a six-member committee, headed by **VG Kannan**, Chief Executive, Indian Banks' Association, **to review the ATM interchange fee structure**, with a view to giving a fillip to ATM deployment in unbanked areas.
- The committee will **review existing patterns of costs, charges and interchange fees for ATM transactions**.

10. c

- Wheat needs 12 to 15 inches (31 to 38 centimeters) of water to produce a good crop.
- It grows best when temperatures are warm, from 70° to 75° F (21° to 24° C), but not too hot.
- Wheat also needs a lot of sunshine, especially when the grains are filling.

**13-06-2019**

1) With respect to **Multilateral Instrument (MLI)**, sometimes seen in the news recently, consider the following statements

1. It is a multilateral convention to implement tax treaty related measures to prevent base erosion and profit shifting.
2. It is an outcome of the OECD/G20 Project.
3. India has both signed and ratified the convention.

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

2) Consider the following statements with respect to **DBT Tribal Portal**

1. It is an online portal comprises 3 main modules for Pre-Matric & Post-Matric Scholarship.

2. It was launched by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

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

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

3) **Bariatric Surgery** is related to?

- a. Renal transplantation
- b. Geriatric care
- c. Weight loss
- d. Population Control

4) If a person moves from Abha to Cairo through the shortest route available for her, which of the following water bodies would she may cross?

- a. Red Sea
- b. Black Sea
- c. Arabian Sea
- d. Mediterranean Sea

5) Consider the following statements with respect to **Nipah virus**

1. It is zoonotic and spreads primarily between animals and humans.
2. Insectivorous bats are widely known as reservoir of Nipah virus and play a major role in spreading these viruses.

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

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

6) Consider the following statements with respect to *Nal se Jal Scheme*

1. It aims to ensure piped water for regions adversely affected by severe droughts.
2. Jal Shakti ministry is the implementing agency for this scheme.

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

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

7) *Ghoomar* is a traditional folk dance of which of the following states?

- a. Mizoram
- b. Bihar
- c. Assam
- d. Rajasthan

8) Which of the following processes is related to the formation of the atmosphere?

- a. Solar winds
- b. Photosynthesis
- c. Degassing
- d. All of the above

9) The “Revenue Insurance Scheme for Plantation Crops” is applicable to?

1. Coffee
2. Tea
3. Tobacco
4. Cardamom
5. Rubber

Select the correct code

- a. 1,2,3 & 5
- b. 1, 2 & 5

- c. 1,2,4&5
- d. All the above

10) Umbrella Revolution is related to which of the following country?

- a. China
- b. South Sudan
- c. France
- d. UAE

1. d

- **Multilateral Instrument (MLI)** is a Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS).
- *India has recently ratified the Multilateral Convention.*
- It is an outcome of the OECD / G20 Project, of which India is a member.
- It aims to tackle Base Erosion and Profit Shifting i.e., tax planning strategies that exploit gaps and mismatches in tax rules to artificially shift profits to low or no-tax locations where there is little or no economic activity, resulting in little or no tax being paid.

2. a

- **Ministry of Tribal Welfare** has recently launched the ‘*E-Governance Initiatives for ST Welfare Schemes*’.
- It has developed **online** portals namely **DBT Tribal** and **NGO Grants Online Application & Tracking System** for bringing in greater e-Governance in implementation of welfare schemes for STs.
- In DBT Tribal portal, there are 3 main modules for Pre-Matric & Post-Matric Scholarship.

3. c

- **Bariatric Surgery** is a surgery on the stomach and/or intestines to help a person with extreme obesity **lose weight**.

4. a



Yemen's Houthis have recently fired a missile at Saudi Arabia's **Abha International airport**, wounding 26 civilians in the building's arrivals hall.

5. a

- The Nipah virus is **zoonotic** — it spreads primarily between animals and humans — and **fruit bats** are known to spread it.
- Fruit bats, as opposed to insectivorous bats, survive largely on a diet of fruit, which they locate with their sense of smell (insectivorous bats locate their prey through echolocation, or by locating the source of the echoes of their own sound).

6. b

- Nal Se Jal (Water from Tap) scheme is the most ambitious project of union government.
- It aims to ensure **piped water for every household by 2024**.
- Newly-formed Ministry of **Jal Shakti** is the implementing agency of the scheme.

7. d

8. d

9. d

10. a

**15-06-2019**

1) Consider the following statements with respect to **National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRD & PR)**

1. It's one of the main objectives is to study the functioning of the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and rural development programmes across the States.
2. It is an autonomous organisation under the Union Ministry of Rural Development.

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

2) Which of the following is/are the objectives of Mission Chandrayaan-2?

1. To map the variations in lunar surface composition extensively in order to trace back the origin and evolution of the moon.
2. To study on the extent of water molecule distribution on the surface to address the origin of water on moon.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

3) Consider the following statements with respect to **Sustainable Livelihoods and Adaptation to Climate Change (SLACC) Programme**

1. It aims to help Rural Poor Farm Holds adapt to Climate Change and sustain their livelihoods.

2. It has been launched as a submission under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

4) Consider the following statements with respect to *International Space Station (ISS)*

- It is the only one fully functioning space station in Earth's lower orbit.
- India has recently decided to join the International Space Station (ISS).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

5) *World Investment Report* is published annually by which of the following?

- World Bank
- World Economic Forum
- International Monetary Fund
- UN Conference on Trade and Development

6) Consider the following statements with respect to *Kimberley Process*

- It is an international certification scheme that regulates trade in rough diamonds.
- India is one of the founder members of Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS).
- India is the Chair of Kimberley Process for the year 2019 with Russian Federation as Vice Chair.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

7) Who among the following are the members of *Governing Council of NITI Aayog*?

- The Prime Minister of India
- Chief Ministers of all the States
- Lt. Governors of Union Territories without legislatures
- Special invitees

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

8) Consider the following statements with respect to *Aditya L1 Mission*

- It is ISRO's first solar mission planned to launch a 400kg class satellite in Low Earth Orbit (LEO).
- It was meant to observe only the solar corona.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

9) Which of the following countries *does not* share borders with *Gulf of Oman*?

- Iran
- Qatar

### 3. Bahrain

### 4. Saudi Arabia

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- All except 1
- All except 1 and 4
- 2 and 3 only
- All of the above

10) With respect to *Lagrangian points*, which of the following is *incorrect*?

- It is a location where the combined gravitational forces of two large bodies equal the centrifugal force felt by a much smaller third body
- It refers to the farthest points reached by an orbiting planetary body with respect to a host body
- This point doesn't experience gravitational force
- There are 5 Lagrange points between Earth and Sun

## Answers

1. c

- The Hyderabad-based National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR) has launched a training programme of Sustainable Livelihoods and Adaptation to Climate Change (SLACC) to help Rural Poor Farm Holds adapt to Climate Change and sustain their livelihoods.
- Under the National Rural Livelihood Mission, the NIRDPR has launched the training programme.

2. c

The objectives of Mission Chandrayaan-2 are:

- To map the variations in lunar surface composition extensively in order to trace back the origin and evolution of the moon.
- Focused studies on the extent of water molecule distribution on the surface, below the surface and in the tenuous lunar exosphere to address the origin of water on moon.

3. a

- SLACC Programme aims to help Rural Poor Farm Holds adapt to Climate Change and sustain their livelihoods.
- It has been launched under the **National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM)**.
- Total 638 drought and flood-prone villages of Madhya Pradesh and Bihar are being covered on pilot basis under this first of its kind initiative. It will be scaled up nationwide in due course.

4. a

- ISRO's Chairman has recently stated that **India will not join** the International Space Station (ISS).
- He also said that, India is **planning to launch its own space station**.
- A space station is a spacecraft capable of supporting crew members, designed to remain in space for an extended period of time and for other spacecraft to dock.
- Currently, there is only one fully functioning space station in Earth's lower orbit, the **International Space Station** and astronauts conduct different experiments in it.

5. d

6. d

- The Kimberley Process is an international certification scheme that regulates trade in rough diamonds.
- It aims to prevent the flow of conflict diamonds, while helping to protect legitimate trade in rough diamonds.
- It has no permanent offices or permanent staff.
- India is one of the founder members of Kimberley Process Certification Scheme and is the Chair of Kimberley Process for the year 2019 with Russian Federation as Vice Chair.

7. d

- The Governing Council of NITI Aayog comprises of:
  - The Prime Minister of India
  - Chief Ministers of all the States and Union Territories with Legislatures
  - Lt. Governors of other Union Territories

4. Other special invitees.
8. d

- The **Aditya-1** mission was conceived as a 400kg class satellite carrying one payload, the Visible Emission Line Coronagraph (VELC) and was planned to launch in an 800 km low earth orbit.
- A Satellite placed in the halo orbit around the Lagrangian point 1 (L1) of the Sun-Earth system has the major advantage of continuously viewing the Sun without any occultation/ eclipses.
- Therefore, the **Aditya-1 mission has now been revised to "Aditya-L1 mission"** and will be inserted in a **halo orbit** around the L1, which is 1.5 million km from the Earth.
- **Aditya-1** was meant to observe **only the solar corona**.
- **Aditya-L1** with additional experiments can now provide observations of **Sun's Photosphere** (soft and hard X-ray), **Chromosphere** (UV) and **corona** (Visible and NIR).

9. a



10. b

- Lagrangian point is a point where the attraction by the Sun and the Earth becomes equal.
- The point doesn't experience gravitational force.
- If a satellite is put there, it won't get deflected, yet the captured data will be accurate.

**17-06-2019**

**1) Feni Bridge also known as Maitree Setu is connecting India with which of the following countries?**

- Bangladesh
- Myanmar
- Sri Lanka
- Nepal

**2) Consider the following statements with respect to International Pulsar Timing Array (IPTA)**

- It aims to detect ultra-low frequency gravitational waves.
- It is a collaboration of radio astronomers from a dozen countries across the globe.
- India is a permanent member of the IPTA.

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

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

**3) Galapagos Islands sometimes seen in the news recently are a part of which of the following countries?**

- U.S.A
- Colombia
- Ecuador
- None of the above

4) The World Health Organisation recommends that all blood donations at blood banks, hospitals, labs should be screened for transfusion-transmissible infections. Screening for which infections is mandatory?

- Human Immunodeficiency Virus
- Hepatitis B and C
- Malaria
- All of the above

5) Consider the following statements with respect to *Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES)*

- It most commonly affects children and young adults and can lead to considerable morbidity and mortality.
- Japanese encephalitis virus (JEV) is the major cause of Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) in India.

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

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

6) *Thoruru style* of wood crafting is practised in which of the following states?

- Kerala
- Maharashtra
- Bihar
- Andhra Pradesh

7) Consider the following statements with respect to *Strait of Hormuz*

- It is a strait located between Yemen and Djibouti.
- It connects Gulf of Oman with Persian Gulf.

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

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

8) *International Intellectual Property Index* was published by which of the following?

- UN Development Programme
- World Intellectual Property Organisation
- US Chamber of Commerce
- None of the above

9) Consider the following statements with respect to *World Health Organization (WHO)*

- It is one of the specialised agencies of UN.
- Its headquarters is located in Geneva, Switzerland.
- India is a founding member of WHO.

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

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

10) *Deepor Beel Wildlife Sanctuary* is located in which of the following states?

- Meghalaya
- Assam
- Tripura
- Arunachal Pradesh

### Answers

1. a

- Being developed as a corridor for trade and commerce between India's North-East and Bangladesh, the Feni bridge also known as Maitree Setu will connect Tripura



of **India** with Chittagong port of **Bangladesh**.

- The bridge is being constructed by the National Highways Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd of Ministry of Road and Transport highways.

2. b

- The IPTA is a collaboration of radio astronomers from a dozen countries across the globe.
- It uses more than 12 radio telescopes all over the world with an aim to detect **ultra-low frequency gravitational waves**.
- India has been an **associate member** of the IPTA since the last four years.
- National Centre for Radio Astrophysics (NCRA) is all set to host the five-day annual International Pulsar Timing Array (IPTA) meet from June 17 to 21.*

3. c



4. d

- In India, it is mandatory to test every unit of blood collected for **Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, HIV/AIDS, Syphilis and Malaria**.

5. c

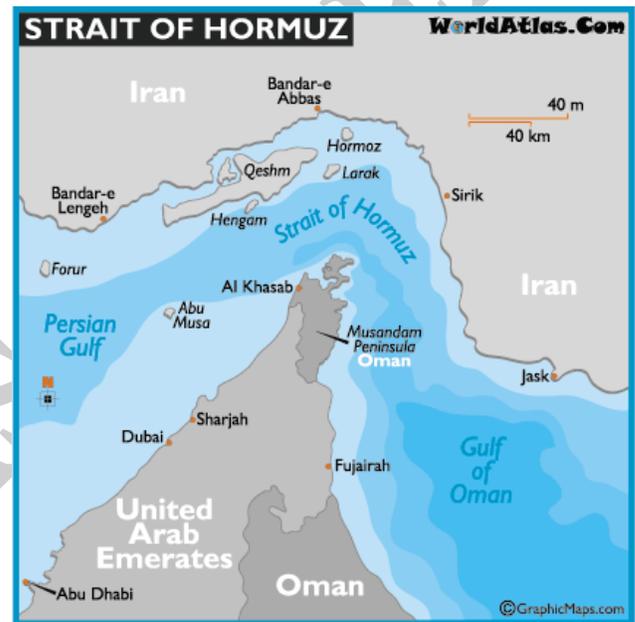
- Acute encephalitis syndrome (AES) is characterized as acute-onset of fever and a change in mental status (mental confusion, disorientation, delirium, or coma) and/or new-onset of seizures in a person of any age at any time of the year.
- The disease most commonly affects children and young adults and can lead to considerable morbidity and mortality.

- Japanese encephalitis virus (JEV) is the major cause of AES in India (ranging from 5-35 percent).
- Nipah virus, Zika virus are also found as causative agents for AES.

6. d

- In Thoruru style of wood crafting, the artisans never use a pencil to make sketches on the wood chiselling out the choicest of images.

7. b



8. c

9. d

10. b

**18-06-2019**

1) **Bonn Challenge** is associated with?

- Conservation of migratory species
- Reduction of single use plastics
- Reducing the usage of antibiotics
- Restoration of deforested lands

2) Consider the following statements with respect to *World Food India (WFI)*

1. It is a biennial event organised by the Ministry of Agriculture.
2. It aims to promote exports of food products manufactured in India at global level.

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

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

3) Why is a plant called *Lantana camara* often mentioned in news?

- a. It absorbs the persistent organic pollutants in the air
- b. Its extract is widely used as a wound sealant
- c. It is invasive and diminishes the grazing areas for herbivores
- d. None of the above

4) As a member of the selection panel, the *Leader of the Opposition (LoP)* has a crucial role in deciding key appointments of which of the following?

1. Lokpal
2. CBI Director
3. Chief Vigilance Commissioner
4. Chief Information Commissioner
5. National Human Rights Commissioner

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

5) Consider the following statements with respect to *United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)*

1. It is the only legally binding international agreement linking environment and development issues to the land agenda.
2. The 14th session of the Conference of Parties (COP-14) of the UNCCD will be hosted by India.

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

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

6) With respect to *Leader of the Opposition (LoP)*, consider the following statements:

1. The leader of the largest Opposition party having not less than one-sixth seats of the total strength of the House is recognised as the LoP in that House.
2. They are also entitled to the salary, allowances and other facilities equivalent to that of a cabinet minister.

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

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

7) Which of the following conventions are called as *Rio Conventions*, which are the results of the Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992?

1. Convention on Biological Diversity
2. Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species
3. United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

4. **Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species**
5. **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change**

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

8) **Abujh Marias** is a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) community living in?

- a. Odisha
- b. Assam
- c. Jharkhand
- d. Chhattisgarh

9) The disputed territory **Senkaku/ Diaoyu Islands** often seen in the news is located in which of the following regions?

- a. South China Sea
- b. East China Sea
- c. Sea of Japan
- d. Yellow Sea

10) **Global Peace Index 2019** was released by which of the following agencies?

- a. United Nations
- b. International Peace Institute
- c. Institute of Economics & Peace
- d. Amnesty International

Answers

1. d

- The Bonn Challenge is a global effort to bring **150 million hectares of the world's deforested and degraded land into restoration by 2020, and 350 million hectares by 2030.**

- It was launched in 2011 by the Government of Germany and IUCN, and later endorsed and extended by the New York Declaration on Forests at the 2014 UN Climate Summit.

2. d

- **World Food India** is a biennial event initiated by the Government of India to **promote food processing sector at global level.**
- *The World Food India 2019 will be held from November 1-4, 2019 in New Delhi and will position India as food processing destination of the World.*
- This will be the second edition of World Food India, with first one held in 2017.
- *It will be organised by the **Ministry of Food Processing Industries.***

3. c

- *Lantana camara is an invasive weed which traditionally threatened only the native flora along the lower Nilgiris slopes, particularly the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve (MTR), is now spreading to new habitats, including areas just outside Udhagamandalam.*
- The invasive species which had taken over large swathes of the tiger reserve, **diminishing the grazing areas for herbivores.**

4. d

5. c

- **India for the first time** will host the 14th session of the Conference of Parties (COP-14) of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in September 2019.
- Established in 1994, the UNCCD is the **only legally binding** international agreement linking environment and development issues to the land agenda.

6. b

- In each House of Parliament, there is the Leader of the Opposition (LoP).
- The leader of the largest Opposition party having not less than **one-tenth seats** of the total strength of the House is recognised as the leader of the Opposition in that House.

- The leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha were accorded statutory recognition in 1977.
- They are also entitled to the salary, allowances and other facilities equivalent to that of a **cabinet minister**.

7. a

- United Nations has 3 Rio Conventions namely:
  1. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
  2. Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
  3. United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)

8. d

- **Abujh Marias** is a **Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG)** community living in Abujhmarh forest, Bastar region of **Chhattisgarh**.
- Since Abujh Marias is a PVTG community, they are entitled to the habitat rights under the Forest Rights Act (FRA).
- *Recently, Chhattisgarh government has initiated the processing of habitat rights for Abujh Marias.*

9. b

- The **Senkaku Islands** are located in the **East China Sea** between Japan, the People's Republic of China, and the Republic of China (Taiwan).
- The archipelago contains five uninhabited islands and three barren rocks.
- *Japan has recently protested against an unauthorised Chinese maritime survey within its economic waters near disputed Senkakau/Diaoyu Island located in the East China Sea.*

10. c

- **Global Peace Index** is released by the Australian think tank **Institute for Economics & Peace**.
- India's rank has the year 2019 has slipped five places to 141.

- According to the report, Iceland remains the most peaceful country in the world, a position it has held since 2008.
- Afghanistan is now the least peaceful country in the world, replacing Syria, which is now the second least peaceful.



19-06-2019

1) With respect to **Speaker of Lok Sabha**, consider the following statements:

1. **The salaries and allowances of the speaker are fixed by Parliament.**
2. **His/Her work and conduct cannot be discussed and criticised in the Lok Sabha except on a substantive motion.**
3. **In India, the person elected to be the Speaker of Lok Sabha must resign from his/her party and remain politically neutral.**

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

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

2) With respect to **Whip**, consider the following statements:

1. **They are not mentioned in the Indian Constitution but mentioned in the Rules of the House.**
2. **He/She is appointed by the presiding officer of the respected House.**

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

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

3) *Progress on drinking water, sanitation and hygiene: 2000-2017* is a report published recently by?

- WHO
- UN Water
- WHO and UNICEF
- None of the above

4) In India, which of the following agencies is responsible to assess the safety of a genetically modified plant, and decide whether it is fit for cultivation or not?

- Department of Bio-technology
- Ministry of Agriculture
- Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee
- Central Drugs Standard Control Organization

5) Consider the following statements with respect to *North Eastern Council (NEC)*

- It was constituted in 1971 by an Act of Parliament.
- It is the nodal agency for the economic and social development of the North Eastern Region which consists of the eight States.

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

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

6) *The World Population Prospects 2019* is a report published by?

- UN Population Fund
- World Health Organisation
- UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs
- None of the above

7) Consider the following statements with respect to *Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC)*

- It appraises activities involving large scale use of hazardous microorganisms and recombinants in research and industrial production from the environmental angle.
- It works under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

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

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

8) Consider the following statements with respect to *National Productivity Council (NPC)*

- It is an autonomous registered society to promote and adopt the new and improved culture of productivity in India.
- It works under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

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

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

9) “*Dirty List*”, a registry of employers that have been found by the government to have engaged in slave labour is followed in which of the following countries?

- Brazil
- China
- Russia
- South Africa

10) Consider the following statements with respect to *Bt Cotton*

- It involves insertion of two genes from the soil bacterium *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* into cotton seeds.
- Bt cotton* is the only genetically modified crop allowed to be cultivated in India.

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

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

## Answers

1. b

- In Britain, the Speaker is strictly a non-party man.
- There is a convention that the Speaker has to resign from his party and remain politically neutral.
- This healthy convention is **not fully established in India** where the Speaker does not resign from the membership of his party on his election to the exalted office.

2. c

- Though the offices of the leader of the House and the leader of the Opposition are not mentioned in the Constitution of India, they are mentioned in the Rules of the House and Parliamentary Statute respectively.
- The office of ‘whip’, on the other hand, is mentioned **neither in the Constitution of**

**India nor in the Rules of the House nor in a Parliamentary Statute.**

- It is based on the conventions of the parliamentary government.
- Every political party, whether ruling or Opposition has its own whip in the Parliament.
- He is **appointed by the political party** to serve as an assistant floor leader.

3. c

- The Joint Monitoring Programme report, “**Progress on drinking water, sanitation and hygiene: 2000-2017: Special focus on inequalities**” was published jointly by the **WHO and UNICEF**.

4. c

- In India, it is the responsibility of the **Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC)** under the **Environment Ministry** to assess the safety of a genetically modified plant, and decide whether it is fit for cultivation.

5. c

- The North Eastern Council (NEC) is the nodal agency for the economic and social development of the North Eastern Region which consists of the **eight States** of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura.
- The North Eastern Council was constituted in 1971 by an **Act of Parliament**.

6. c

- The World Population Prospects 2019: Highlights, is report published by the Population Division of the **UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA)**.

7. c

- The Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) functions under the **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC)**.
- Its major functions are:
  - To appraise activities involving large scale use of hazardous microorganisms and

recombinants in research and industrial production from the environmental angle.

2. To appraise proposals relating to release of genetically engineered organisms and products into the environment including experimental field trials.
8. c
- National Productivity Council (NPC) is a national level organization to promote productivity culture in India.
  - Working under the DPIIT, it is an autonomous, multipartite, non-profit organization.
  - It is a constituent of the Tokyo-based Asian Productivity Organisation (APO), an Inter Governmental Body, of which the Government of India is a founder member.
9. a
- “**Dirty List**” is a registry of employers that have been found by the government to have engaged in slave labour.
  - It gives transparency to a decision already reached by the **Brazilian** state.
  - Created in 2004, it has been hailed by the United Nations as a key tool in Brazil’s anti-slavery drive.
10. b
- Bt cotton remains the **only GM crop allowed** to be cultivated in India.
  - Developed by US giant Bayer-Monsanto, it involves insertion of two genes viz ‘Cry1Ab’ and ‘Cry2Bc’ from the soil bacterium **Bacillus thuringiensis** into cotton seeds.
  - This modification codes the plant to produce protein toxic to Heliothis bollworm (**pink bollworm**) thus making it resistant to their attack.
  - Besides Bt cotton, the GEAC has cleared two other genetically modified crops – **brinjal and mustard** – but these have **not received the consent of the Environment Minister**.

**20-06-2019**

1) **Sadikpur Sinauli** sometimes seen in the news recently is the largest necropolis of the late Harappan period of the early 2nd millennium BCE is located in which of the following Indian states?

- Bihar
- Rajasthan
- Uttar Pradesh
- Jammu and Kashmir

2) **Global Trends Report** is published recently by which of the following organisations?

- World Economic Forum
- UNICEF
- Food and Agricultural Organisation
- UN High Commissioner for Refugees

3) Which of the following is/are the applications of **Carbon Quantum Dots (CQDs)** sometimes seen in the news recently?

- Bio-imaging
- Chemical sensing
- Opto-electronics

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

4) Consider the following statements with respect to **ReCAAP Agreement** sometimes seen in the news recently

- It is the first regional government-to-government agreement to promote and enhance cooperation against piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia.
- India is one of the contracting parties of ReCAAP.



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

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

5) Consider the following statements with respect to *Libya*

1. It shares borders with Morocco, Algeria and Egypt.
2. Tropic of Cancer passes through it.
3. Tripoli and Benghazi are centres of two rival Libyan governments.

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

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

6) Consider the following statements with respect to *Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC)*

1. It is a statutory body established by an Act of Parliament.
2. It deals with issues relating to financial stability, financial literacy and financial inclusion.
3. It is chaired by the Governor of Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

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

- 2 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3
- None

7) *QS World University Rankings* is published annually by?

- Times Higher Education
- Quacquarelli Symonds
- UNESCO
- None of the above

8) Arsenic is naturally present at high levels in the groundwater of a number of countries. The effect of long-term exposure to inorganic arsenic can be observed on the?

- Skin
- Teeth
- Eyes
- Saliva

9) *Newar community* sometimes seen in the news recently inhabits in which of the following countries?

- Nepal
- Bhutan
- Pakistan
- Bangladesh

10) Ingestion of lead-contaminated water could?

- Lead to diarrhoea
- Lead to obesity
- Affects the blood circulatory system
- Affect the development of brain in children

### Answers

1. c

- The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has started the process of declaring the site at **Sadikpur Sinauli** in **Uttar Pradesh**, of **National Importance**.

2. d

- Developing countries, not rich Western nations, are bearing the brunt of the world's

refugee crisis, the **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)** said in its yearly report “**Global Trends**”.

3. d

- A team of scientists in Assam has developed a chemical process that turns ‘dirty’ coal into a biomedical ‘dot’ to help detect cancer cells.
- They has applied for a patent for their chemical method of producing **Carbon Quantum Dots (CQDs)** from cheap, abundant, low-quality and high-sulphur coals.
- **CQDs are carbon-based nanomaterials** whose size is less than 10 nm, or nanometre.
- “Carbon-based nanomaterials are used as diagnostic tools for **Bio-imaging**, especially in detecting cancer cells, for **Chemical sensing** and in **Opto-electronics**.”

4. c

- The Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP) is the first regional government-to-government agreement **to promote and enhance cooperation against piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia**.
- The ReCAAP Agreement was launched in November 2006 with 14 Asian Contracting Parties including North, Southeast, and South Asian countries.
- It has 20 Contracting Parties now, including Europe (Norway, the Netherlands, Denmark, and the United Kingdom), Australia, **India** and the United States.
- **Indian Coast Guard (ICG)** is co-hosting the 12th ReCAAP ISC capacity building workshop.

5. a

- **Tripoli and Tobruk** are centres of two rival Libyan governments.



6. a

- The Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) is chaired by the **Union Finance Minister**.
- It has been constituted vide GOI notification. Hence it is **not a statutory body**.
- The Council deals, inter-alia, with issues relating to **financial stability**, financial sector development, inter-regulatory coordination, **financial literacy**, **financial inclusion** and macro prudential supervision of the economy including the functioning of large financial conglomerates.

7. b

- QS World University Rankings is published annually by global higher education consultancy **Quacquarelli Symonds**.
- 23 Indian Institutions have been ranked among the best global universities in QS World University ranking released recently.
- The QS list ranks the world’s top 1,000 universities.

8. a

- Long-term exposure to arsenic in drinking water can cause cancer in the **skin**, lungs, bladder and kidney.
- It can also cause other **skin changes** such as thickening and pigmentation.

9. a

- In **Nepal**, thousands of people especially from the **Newar Community** protest in capital Kathmandu against the controversial “Guthi Bill” introduced in the Nepal Parliament recently.
- Guthis are socio-economic institutions (trusts), both public and private, that fund their

obligations from incomes from cultivated or leased land assets.

- Depending on their obligations, Guthis fulfil religious, public service or social roles and could either involve members from a common lineage, or several.

10. d

- Lead exposure can have serious consequences for the health of children.
- At high levels of exposure, lead attacks the **brain** and central nervous system to cause coma, convulsions and even death.
- In particular lead can affect **children's brain development** resulting in reduced intelligence quotient (IQ), behavioural changes such as reduced attention span and increased antisocial behaviour, and reduced educational attainment.

**21-06-2019**

1) With respect to PM's Awards for Outstanding Contribution towards the Development and Promotion of Yoga, Consider the following statements:

1. The awards will be given only to citizens of India.
2. An entity which has received award once may not be considered again for conferring award in the same category.

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

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

2) Consider the following statements with respect to National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB)

1. It is responsible for accreditation of certification/inspection bodies as per applicable international standards under an international system of equivalence.

2. It is a constituent board of Quality Council of India (QCI).

3. It is an autonomous body attached to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

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

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

3) Operation Sankalp sometimes seen in the news recently is associated with?

- a. e-governance
- b. Maritime Security
- c. Disaster Response
- d. Rural Development

4) Bhavishya is an online pension sanction and payment tracking system implemented by?

- a. Ministry of Finance
- b. Ministry of Social Justice
- c. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- d. Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions

5) Consider the following statements with respect to National Bal Bhavan

1. It is an autonomous organisation under the Ministry of Women and Child Development.
2. It was founded by Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru in 1956.
3. It aims at enhancing the creative potential of children by providing them opportunities and a common platform.

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

- a. 3 only



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

6) Consider the following statements with respect to *UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)*

1. It is one of the 15 specialised agencies of the United Nations.
2. Seats in the council are allocated based on geographical representation.

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

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

7) Consider the following statements with respect to *Ethiopia*

1. It is located in the region called Horn of Africa.
2. It shares its border with Indian Ocean.

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

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

8) The chairman and members of *National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)* are appointed by the President on the recommendations of a committee consisting of

1. Union home minister
2. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha
3. The Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha
4. The leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha

5. The leader of the Opposition in Rajya Sabha

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

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

9) *Chamki Fever* sometimes seen in the news recently refers to which of the following diseases?

- a. West Nile Fever
- b. Leptospirosis
- c. Yellow Fever
- d. Acute Encephalitis Syndrome

10) Consider the following statements regarding *Chilka Lake*

1. It has been designated as wetland of International importance under the Ramsar convention.
2. It is the largest brackish water lake.
3. It is the largest coastal lagoon in India.
4. It is also known for Irrawaddy dolphins.

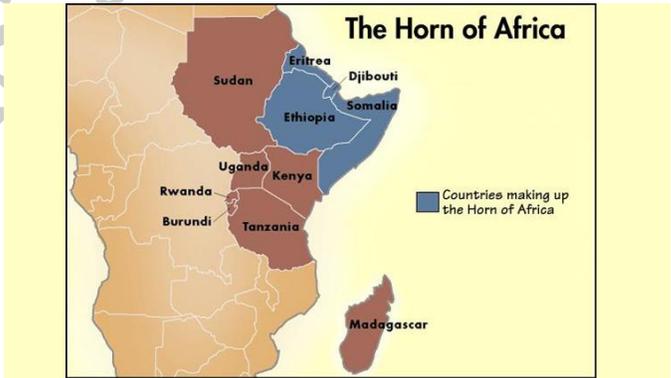
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

## Answers

1. b

- The awards are being proposed to be given **each year** for exemplary contribution in the field of Yoga towards the development and promotion of Yoga.
- The awards would be given in two categories – **National and International**.

- An entity which has received award once may not be considered again for conferring award in the same category.
  - The winners will be felicitated by means of a Trophy, Certificate and a Cash Award
  - The value of each Cash Award would be Rs. 25 lakh.
  - In-case of joint winners, the awards would be divided amongst the winners.
  - *Antonietta Rozzi of Italy, Japan Yoga Niketan, Swami Rajarshi Muni of Life Mission, Gujarat, and Bihar School of Yoga, Munger, are the recipients of the 2019 Prime Minister's Award for outstanding contribution for promotion and development of Yoga.*
2. d
- **National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB)**, a constituent Board of the **Quality Council of India**, an autonomous body attached to the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry**, is responsible for accreditation of certification/inspection bodies as per applicable international standards under an international system of equivalence.
3. b
- In a major development the Indian Navy has launched **Operation Sankalp** in the Persian Gulf/Gulf of Oman as a measure to re-assure Indian flagged vessels transiting through the region.
  - The development has come in the wake of the attack on oil tankers raising tensions between US and Iran.
  - India has deployed its ship **INS Chennai & INS Sunayna** in the Gulf of Oman and Persian Gulf to undertake maritime security operations.
4. d
- **Bhavishya** is an online Pension Sanction and Payment Tracking System implemented by the Department of Pension & Pensioners Welfare, **Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions**.
  - The system provides for on-line tracking of pension sanction and payment process.
5. c
- National Bal Bhavan an autonomous institution under **Ministry of Human Resources and Development (MHRD)** was founded by **Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru** in 1956.
  - It aims at enhancing the creative potential of children by providing them opportunities and a common platform to interact, experiment, create and perform according to their age, aptitude and ability.
6. b
- UN ECOSOC is one of the 6 principal organs of United Nations (UN).
  - It has 54 members, which are elected by the General Assembly for a three-year term.
  - Seats in the council are allocated based on geographical representation. 11 of them are allotted to Asian states.
7. b
- 
8. d
- The chairman and members of **National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)** are appointed by the President on the recommendations of a six-member committee consisting of:
    1. The prime minister as its head
    2. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha
    3. The Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha
    4. The leaders of the Opposition in Lok Sabha
    5. The leaders of the Opposition in Rajya Sabha
    6. The Central home minister

9. d

- **Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES)** is also referred as **Chamki Fever**
- Encephalitis is inflammation of the brain caused most commonly by viral infection, affecting the central nervous system and hampering the neurological functions.
- There are two types of encephalitis – primary and secondary.
- Primary encephalitis occurs when a virus or other agent directly infects the brain while secondary encephalitis results from a weak immune system's reaction to an infection elsewhere in the body.

10. d

**22-06-2019**

1) Consider the following statements with respect to **National Family Health Survey (NFHS)**

1. All National Family Health Surveys have been conducted under the stewardship of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
2. There are totally four rounds of National Family Health Survey's (NFHSs) conducted in India.
3. First three rounds of NFHS didn't cover Union Territories except National Capital Territory of Delhi.

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

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

2) **Operation Bandar** sometimes seen in the news recently is associated with?

- a. Disaster Response
- b. Maritime security
- c. Attack operation on Terrorists
- d. Illegal trade of wildlife species

3) Consider the following statements with respect to **Linganamakki Reservoir**

1. It is located in the state of Odisha.
2. It is being constructed across the River Indravati.

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

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

4) Which of the following schemes are implemented by the Government of India to promote and support Organic Farming?

1. Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana
2. Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana
3. Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)
4. Mission Organic Value Chain Development North Eastern Region

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

5) Which of the following agencies is the nodal agency for providing coordination and technical guidance for the **National Family Health Survey (NFHS)**?

- a. Central Statistics Office (CSO)
- b. National Sample Survey Office (NSSO)
- c. Indian Institute of Health and Diseases (IIHD)
- d. International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS)



6) Consider the following statements with respect to *Dissolution of Lok Sabha*

1. When the Lok Sabha is dissolved, all business including bills, motions, resolutions, notices and petitions pending before it or its committees lapse.
2. A bill passed by both Houses but returned by the President for reconsideration of Houses lapses.

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

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

7) Consider the following statements with respect to *Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP)*

1. It aims to bring down the healthcare budget of every citizen of India through providing quality generic medicines at affordable prices.
2. It was launched by the Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India (BPPI).

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

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

8) Consider the following statements with respect to *Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India*

1. It is a statutory body established through the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940.
2. It was established in 2008 under the Department of Pharmaceuticals.

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

- a. 1 only

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

9) Which one of the following is *not* a sub-index of the *World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Index*?

- a. Getting Electricity
- b. Enforcing Contracts
- c. Protecting Minority Investors
- d. Digitization of approval process

10) Consider the following statements with respect to *Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana*

1. It aims to create modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain management from farm gate to retail outlet.
2. It is being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture.

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

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

### Answers

1. d

- All National Family Health Surveys have been conducted under the stewardship of the *Ministry of Health and Family Welfare*.
- *Four rounds* of National Family Health Survey (NFHS) were conducted in the country during 1992-93 (NFHS 1), 1998-99 (NFHS 2), 2005-06 (NFHS-3) and 2015-16 (NFHS-4) with the technical support of *International Institute for Population Sciences*, Mumbai.
- NFHS-1, 2, 3 *didn't cover UTs except Delhi* because the objective of the survey then was to provide State level estimates.

2. c
- The air strike by the Indian Air Force (IAF) on a terrorist training camp in Balakot, Pakistan, was code-named '**Operation Bandar**'.
3. d
- The Linganamakki Reservoir was constructed by the **Karnataka** State Government in 1964.
  - It is being constructed across the **Sharavathi river** and also located about 6 km from **Jog Falls**.
  - The State of Karnataka has directed its officials to prepare a detailed project report (DPR) on transporting water from the Linganamakki reservoir in Shivamogga district to quench the thirst of people of Bengaluru 300 km away.
  - Environmentalists have opposed the plan to draw water from Linganamakki Reservoir.
4. d
- Government of India has been promoting organic farming under two **dedicated schemes** namely **Mission Organic Value Chain Development North Eastern Region** (MOVCDNER) and **Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana** (PKVY) since 2015 through State Governments.
  - Under these schemes, support has been provided for formation of farmers' clusters/ Farmer Producer Organisation; incentives to farmers for input procurement, value addition including post harvest infrastructure creation, packaging, branding, publicity, transportation, organic fairs etc..
  - Organic Farming has also been **supported** under other schemes viz **Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana** (RKVY) and **Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture** (MIDH), **Network Project on Organic Farming** under ICAR.
5. d
- The **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** (MOHFW) designated the **International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS)** Mumbai, as the nodal agency, responsible for providing coordination and technical guidance for the National Family Health Survey (NFHS).
6. b
- When the Lok Sabha is dissolved, all business including bills, motions, resolutions, notices, petitions and so on pending before it or its committees **lapse**.
  - A bill passed by both Houses but returned by the President for **reconsideration** of Houses **does not lapse**.
7. a
- Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana**' (**PMBJP**) aims to bring down the healthcare budget of every citizen of India through providing Quality generic Medicines at Affordable Prices.
  - It was **launched** by the **Department of Pharmaceuticals** in November 2008 under the name Jan Aushadi Campaign.
  - Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India (BPPI)** is the **implementation agency** for PMBJP.
8. b
- BPPI was established in December, 2008 under the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Government of India.
  - The Bureau has been registered as an **independent society** under the **Societies Registration Act, 1860** as a separate independent legal entity in April, 2010.
  - BPPI follows the provisions of GFR, 2017 as amended from time to time, the CVC guidelines, and instructions from the Department of Pharmaceuticals.
  - Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India (BPPI)** is the implementing agency of Pradhan Mantri Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP).
9. d
- The sub-indicators of World Bank's Ease DBR 2019 is as follow
- Starting a Business
  - Dealing with Construction Permits
  - Getting Electricity
  - Registering Property

5. Getting Credit
6. Protecting Minority Investors
7. Paying Taxes
8. Trading Across Borders
9. Enforcing Contracts
10. Resolving Insolvency

10. a

- Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (Scheme for Agro-Marine Processing and Development of Agro-Processing Clusters)
- It is a comprehensive package which will result in creation of modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain management from farm gate to retail outlet.
- The following schemes will be implemented under PM Kisan SAMPADA Yojana :
  1. Mega Food Parks
  2. Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure
  3. Creation/ Expansion of Food Processing/ Preservation Capacities (Unit Scheme)
  4. Infrastructure for Agro-processing Clusters
  5. Creation of Backward and Forward Linkages
  6. Food Safety and Quality Assurance Infrastructure
  7. Human Resources and Institutions

**24-06-2019**

**1) Consider the following statements**

1. It is also called as the Indian Rosewood.
2. It is native to the foothills of the Himalayas.
3. They are widely found in the Tropical Deciduous Forests.

**Identify the tree species that correctly matches with the above description:**

- a. Sundari
- b. Cedar
- c. Mahogany
- d. Shisham

**2) Consider the following statements with respect to Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in India**

1. FDI is completely not allowed in Multi-brand retail trade.
2. 100 per cent FDI is allowed in single-brand retail trading through the automatic route.

**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

- Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Multi Brand Retailing is **allowed up to 51%** but subject to the approval of Government, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).

**3) Predatory Pricing, often seen in the news refers to?**

- a. It is an act of setting prices high in order to attract consumers over fake trust
- b. It is an act of illegal sale of products which are similar to the original products
- c. It is an act of increasing the prices in auctions by intermediaries
- d. It is an act of setting prices low in an attempt to eliminate competition

**4) Consider the following statements with respect to G20**

1. The 14th meeting of G20 will be held in Japan.
2. The theme for this edition will be Human-centred future society.
3. India has participated in all the G20 Summits held so far.

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

- a. 2 only



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

5) Consider the following pairs

*Places in News – Country*

1. Prague – Czech Republic
2. Tbilisi – Georgia

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

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

6) The concept of *Constructive Vote of No Confidence* is followed in which of the following countries?

- a. India
- b. Australia
- c. Germany
- d. Canada

7) “AWaRe” sometimes seen in the news recently is an online tool developed by which of the following organisations?

- a. UN Office on Drugs and Crime
- b. World Health Organisation
- c. Financial Action Task Force
- d. Transparency International

8) Consider the following statements with respect to *National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC)*

1. It is responsible for formulation and implementation of promotional and developmental measures for growth of the industrial sector.

2. It works under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

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

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

9) Consider the following statements with respect to *Inter State Council*

1. The council’s function to enquire and advice upon inter-state disputes is complementary to the Supreme Court’s jurisdiction under Article 131.
2. Its decision is binding on Central and State governments.

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

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

10) The world’s largest irrigation and drinking water system—*Kaleshwaram Multipurpose Lift Irrigation Project* was recently inaugurated by which of the following states?

- a. Maharashtra
- b. Andhra Pradesh
- c. Karnataka
- d. Telangana

### Answers

1. d

- *Indian rosewood or the Shisham tree* is widely found in the *Tropical Deciduous Forests* and is native to the foothills of the Himalayas.
- It is used to make durable dark-reddish tables, beds, bookshelves or chairs.

- Its range extends from Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh in the north, Rajasthan in the west, Bihar, Odisha and West Bengal in the east to the North-Eastern states.
  - *In recent times, Shisham Trees are largely dying in the it's native areas. However, mysterious fungus, human activities and climate change are considered to be the reasons for the large mortality of Shisham Tree.*
2. b
- “**AWaRe**” is an online tool developed by the World Health Organisation (WHO) aimed at guiding policy-makers and health workers to use antibiotics safely and more effectively.
  - The tool ‘AWaRe’, classifies antibiotics into three groups:
    1. Access — antibiotics used to treat the most common and serious infections
    2. Watch — antibiotics available at all times in the healthcare system
    3. Reserve — antibiotics to be used sparingly or preserved and used only as a last resort
3. d
- Predatory pricing, also known as **undercutting**, is a pricing strategy in which a product or service is set at a **very low price** with the intention to achieve new customers (Loss leader), or driving competitors out of the market or to create barriers to entry for potential new competitors.
4. d
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi, will attend the **14th G20 Summit** in **Osaka, Japan** from 28th to 29th June.
  - The Summit under the Japanese Presidency is centred around the theme "**Human-centred future society**".
  - On the sidelines of the G20 Summit, an informal meeting of the BRICS leaders and bilateral meetings with other leaders would also take place.
  - **India has participated in all the G20 Summits held so far.**
- It will host the G20 summit in 2022 for the first time.
5. c
- In the **Czech Republic**, hundreds of thousands of protesters have taken to the streets of the capital city of **Prague** demanding the resignation of Prime Minister Andrej Babis.
  - Russia has temporarily banned its airlines from flying to Georgia from July. The move came following violent clashes in Georgia after a Russian lawmaker addressed parliament in **Tbilisi, the capital city of Georgia.**
6. c
- *The ruling BJD in Odisha (where Assembly and Lok Sabha elections already coincide) has proposed a solution for simultaneous elections in India.*
  - *This is based on a concept followed in Germany called “**constructive vote of no-confidence**”, also recommended by the Law Commission of India in a 2018 draft report.*
  - The system prevalent in **Germany** is that the Bundestag (i.e. Lower House) cannot simply remove the Chancellor with a vote of no-confidence.
  - The **constructive vote of no confidence** puts an embargo on ousting the Chancellor as the opponents must not only disagree with his or her governance but also agree on a replacement.
7. b
- “**AWaRe**” is an online tool developed by the World Health Organisation (WHO) aimed at guiding policy-makers and health workers to use antibiotics safely and more effectively.
  - The tool ‘AWaRe’, classifies antibiotics into three groups:
    1. Access — antibiotics used to treat the most common and serious infections
    2. Watch — antibiotics available at all times in the healthcare system
    3. Reserve — antibiotics to be used sparingly or preserved and used only as a last resort
8. d

- National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) is an ISO 9001-2015 certified Government of India Enterprise under **Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises** (MSME).
- NSIC has been working **to promote, aid and foster the growth of micro, small and medium enterprises in the country.**
- *NSIC signs MoU with Commom Service Centres– eGovernance Services India for enhancing new offerings for the MSME sector.*
- **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)** is responsible for formulation and implementation of promotional and developmental measures for growth of the industrial sector, keeping in view the national priorities and socio-economic objectives.

9. a

- The council's function to enquire and advice upon inter-state disputes is **complementary** to the Supreme Court's jurisdiction under Article 131 to decide a legal controversy between the governments.
- The Council can deal with any controversy whether legal or non-legal, but **its function is advisory** unlike that of the court which gives a binding decision.

10. d

- The Kaleshwaram project will provide water for drinking and irrigation purpose to about 45 lakh acres in 20 of the 31 districts in **Telangana**, apart from Hyderabad and Secunderabad.
- This project is unique because Telangana will harness water at the confluence of two rivers with Godavari by constructing a barrage at Medigadda in Jayshankar Bhoopalpally district and reverse pump the water into the main Godavari river and divert it through lifts and pumps into a huge and complex system of reservoirs, water tunnels, pipelines and canals.

**25-06-2019**

1) Consider the following statements about **LIBRA** recently seen in news

1. It is a cryptocurrency.
2. It uses same Blockchain technology as Bitcoin
3. It is backed by several international currencies and securities.

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

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

2) Consider the following statements about **Vitiligo**

1. It is an auto-immune disease.
2. It is a non-life threatening disease.
3. It has same effects as that of Leprosy.

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

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

3) **Bimal Jalan Committee** sometimes seen in the news recently was constituted for which of the following purposes?

- a. To review the policy of Inflation Targeting
- b. To revise and suggest reforms to Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2003
- c. To review the Economic Capital Framework of the RBI
- d. To suggest reform measures to revamp FSSAI

4) *The India Social Development Report-2018: Rising Inequalities in India* is published recently by?

- FICCI
- U.S. Chambers of Commerce
- Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade
- None of the above

5) Who among the following is/are eligible for the *Ashoka Chakra Award*?

- Officers and men and women of all ranks of all the three defence forces.
- Members of Police Forces including Central Para-Military Forces and Railway Protection Force
- Civilian citizens

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

6) *National Achievement Survey (NAS)* is being conducted periodically in India by which of the following Organisations?

- Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
- Ministry of Skill Development And Entrepreneurship
- National Council of Educational Research and Training
- Central Statistical Organisation

7) *Samagra Shiksha Scheme* subsumes which of the following schemes?

- Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan
- Institutes of Eminence Scheme
- Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan
- Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan

5. Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Teacher Education

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

8) Consider the following statements with respect to *Support to Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) Scheme*

- The basic objective of the scheme is to strengthen the Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) in their infrastructural needs, Research & Documentation activities.
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs is the nodal agency for operationalizing the scheme.

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

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

9) *Healthy States, Progressive India Report* is released recently by which of the following Organisations?

- Medical Council of India
- Indian Institute of Health Management Research
- Indian Council of Medical Research
- NITI Aayog

10) *Curiosity Rover* sometimes seen in the news recently is sent to Mars by which of the following Organisations?

- NASA
- ESA



c. ROSCOSMOS

d. JAXA

## Answers

1. d

2. a

- It is neither contagious nor life-threatening.
- It is often confused with leprosy

3. c

4. d

- The *India Social Development Report-2018: Rising Inequalities in India* has been published on behalf of the **Council for Social Development (CSD) by the Oxford University Press.**

5. d

- The persons eligible for the Ashoka Chakra shall be:
- Officers and men and women of all ranks of the Army, the Navy and the Air Force, of any of the Reserve Forces, of the Territorial Army, Militia and of any other lawfully constituted forces.
- Members of the Nursing Services of the Armed Forces.
- Civilian citizens of either sex in all walks of life and members of Police Forces including Central Para-Military Forces and Railway Protection Force.

6. c

- The **National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)** conducts periodic national surveys of learning achievement of children in classes III, V, VIII and X.
- Four rounds of **National Achievement Survey (NAS)** have been conducted so far for class V and three rounds for classes III & VIII.

7. c

Department of School Education and Literacy has launched an Integrated Scheme for School Education-Samagra Shiksha, subsuming three erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Schemes of **Sarva Shiksha**

**Abhiyan(SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan(RMSA) and Teacher education (TE)**

8. c

- Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) have been set up by various State Governments.
- The basic objective of the scheme is to strengthen the Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) in their infrastructural needs, Research & Documentation activities and Training & Capacity Building programmes, etc.
- It is envisaged that TRIs should work as body of knowledge & research more or less as a think tank for tribal development, preservation of tribal cultural heritage, providing inputs to States for evidence based planning and appropriate legislations, capacity building of tribals and persons / institutions associated with tribal affairs, dissemination of information and creation of awareness.
- Funding under this Scheme is 100% Grant-in-Aid by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to the TRIs on need basis.

9. d

- Kerala has once again topped the NITI Aayog's Healthy States Ranking while Bihar and Uttar Pradesh have emerged as the worst performing states.
- The "Healthy States, Progressive India" report was released by NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Dr Rajiv Kumar.
- It has been prepared in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) and with technical assistance from the World Bank.

10. a

- Part of NASA's Mars Science Laboratory mission, Curiosity is the largest and most capable rover ever sent to Mars.
- It has detected the highest ever levels of methane in the course of its mission on Mars, an exciting discovery because the gas could point to the existence of microbial life.
- But, Methane could also be produced as a result of interactions between rocks and water.

**26-06-2019**

1) *U.K.Sinha Committee* sometimes seen in the news recently is constituted for which of the following purposes?

- To review norms pertaining to prevention of insider trading
- To suggest recommendations for fair market conduct
- To review regulations pertaining to Market Infrastructure Institutions
- To review the current framework for the MSME sector

2) *Food and Nutrition Security Analysis – India* is a report prepared in collaboration with the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation by which of the following agencies?

- NITI Aayog
- World Health Organisation
- UN World Food Programme
- Food and Agriculture Organisation

3) With respect to the recently released report *Healthy States, Progressive India*, consider the following statements:

- It has been developed by NITI Aayog, with technical assistance from the World Bank, in consultation with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- Kerala and Tamil Nadu are the leading states in the overall performance on health indicators followed by Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra.
- Uttar Pradesh scored the lowest and remained as the least ranked state.

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

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

4) Wildlife experts have recently discovered the *Impressed Tortoise* also known as the *Manouria impressa* in which of the following regions?

- Western Ghats
- Gulf of Mannar
- Arunachal Pradesh
- Andaman and Nicobar Islands

5) *Chelonian* is an order of reptile that includes which of the following?

- Turtles
- Terrapins
- Tortoises

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

6) *Zero Chance Campaign* sometimes seen in the news recently is launched by which of the following countries?

- China
- Taiwan
- Ukraine
- Australia

7) *Antigua and Barbuda Islands* is located in which of the following regions?

- Banda Sea and Arafura Sea
- Caribbean Sea and Atlantic Ocean
- Gulf of Mexico and Pacific Ocean
- Philippine Sea and North Pacific Ocean

8) Consider the following statements with respect to *Rajya Sabha*

1. The seats are allotted to the states in the Rajya Sabha on the basis of population.
2. The president must nominate two members from the Anglo-Indian community in the Rajya Sabha.
3. Union Territories except Delhi and Puducherry were not represented in the Rajya Sabha.

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

9) Consider the following statements:

1. It comprises of growing compatible plants of different heights on the same field at the same time.
2. It is mostly practised in orchards and plantation crops for maximum use of solar energy even under high planting density.

Identify the method of farming that correctly matches with the above description?

- a. Terrace farming
- b. Multi layer farming
- c. Mixed farming
- d. Agro-forestry

10) Consider the following pairs with respect to Indian Defence Exercises

*Exercises – Country*

1. Garuda – France
2. Varuna – Russia
3. Ekuverin – Maldives

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

- a. 1 only

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

### Answers

1. d

- The committee formed by the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**, headed by former SEBI Chairman **U.K. Sinha** has submitted its report to the RBI Governor recently.
- It recommends for the creation of a distressed asset fund, with a corpus of Rs. 5,000 crore, structured to assist units in clusters where a change in the external environment, e.g. a ban on plastics or ‘dumping’ has led to a large number of MSMEs becoming non-performing asset (NPA).

2. c

- *Food and Nutrition Security Analysis – India 2019* was prepared by the **UN World Food Programme** in collaboration with the **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation**.
- It is a baseline analysis of the country’s progress in achieving the second Sustainable Development Goal to end hunger.

3. c

- **Kerala** continued to **top the list** for the best performing State in the health sector among the 21 large States, while **Uttar Pradesh retained the worst performer tag**, according to the **second edition** of NITI Aayog’s *Healthy States, Progressive India* report.
- The report has been developed by NITI Aayog, with technical assistance from the **World Bank**, in consultation with the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**.
- It has ranking in three categories – larger States, smaller States and Union Territories “to ensure comparison among similar entities.”
- The Index ranks the States and Union Territories based on 23 health-related indicators, including neonatal mortality rate, under-five mortality rate, proportion of low birth weight among new-borns, proportion of districts with functional Cardiac Care Units,

full immunisation coverage and proportion of specialist positions vacant at district hospitals.

- In rankings, **Tamil Nadu has slipped from third place** in 2015-16 to **ninth place** in 2017-18.
- Among the bigger states, Andhra Pradesh gained six ranks (biggest jump) and Tamil Nadu dropped six places (biggest fall).

4. c

- A team of herpetologists from the Forest Department and two NGOs have recently discovered the **Impressed Tortoise** (*Manouria impressa*) in Yazali area of the Lower Subansiri district of **Arunachal Pradesh**.
- There are only two species of tortoises under the *Manouria* genus.
- India was known to be the home of only the Asian Forest Tortoise (*Manouria emys*) until the discovery of the Impressed Tortoise.

5. d

- Chelonian is an order of reptile that includes **turtles, terrapins and tortoises**.

6. d

- The Australian government is launching a campaign '**Zero Chance**' to raise awareness among people trying to enter the country illegally by boats.
- The underlying message of Zero Chance campaign is: **Anyone who tries to come illegally to Australia by boat has zero chance of success.**
- Australia has so far turned back 847 people on 35 vessels trying to enter Australia illegally, as part of the **Operation Sovereign Borders** that has been implemented since 2013.

7. b

- **Antigua and Barbuda Islands** is a country located between the **Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean**.

8. c

- The seats are allotted to the states in the Rajya Sabha on **the basis of population**.

- Hence, the number of representatives varies from state to state.
- For example, Uttar Pradesh has 31 members while Tripura has 1 member only.
- Out of the 7 union territories, only 2 (**Delhi and Puducherry**) **have representation in Rajya Sabha**.
- The populations of other five union territories are too small to have any representative in the Rajya Sabha.
- The President can nominate two members from the Anglo-Indian community, if the community is not adequately represented in the Lok Sabha.

9. b

- The Centre plans to promote multi-layer farming as part of its efforts to help double the income of farmers.
- Multi-layer farming comprises of growing compatible plants of **different heights on the same field at the same time**.
- It is mostly practised in orchards and plantation crops for maximum use of solar energy even under high planting density.

10. c

1. Garuda – France
2. Varuna – France
3. Ekuverin – Maldives

**27-06-2019**

**1) Consider the following statements with respect to UN Security Council (UNSC)**

1. Each year the UN General Assembly elects five non-permanent members for a two-year term.
2. China and Pakistan has supported India's candidature for a non-permanent seat at UNSC for the year 2021-22.

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

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only



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

2) A recent study has found that, women exposed to *Triclosan* chemical are more likely to develop *Osteoporosis*. A person can be exposed to *Triclosan* through which of the following?

- a. Hand sanitizers
- b. Tooth Paste
- c. Contaminated water
- d. All of the above

3) Consider the following statements with respect to *Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA)*

1. It aims to bridge the digital divide, specifically targeting the rural population including the marginalised sections of society like SCs, STs, Minorities and Women etc.
2. It envisages making one individual digitally literate in every village by 2020.
3. It will be implemented by CSC e-Governance Services India Limited.

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

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

4) Consider the following statements

1. Freshly mined uranium contains more than 99% of Uranium 238.
2. U-238 is not fissile, whereas U-235 is fissile.
3. The process of uranium enrichment is simply increasing the proportion of U-235.

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

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

5) *Hillchol* vaccine sometimes seen in the news recently is developed against which of the following diseases?

- a. Hepatitis B
- b. Tuberculosis
- c. Japanese Encephalitis
- d. None of the above

6) Consider the following statements with respect to *Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI)*

1. Its main objective is to maintain and enhance the public's confidence in advertising.
2. It is an autonomous organisation works under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

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

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

7) *BP Sharma Committee* sometimes seen in the news recently is associated with which of the following?

- a. To review the criterion for classifying PSUs as sick and healthy
- b. To review Other Backward Classes Creamy layer criteria
- c. To review the implementation of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code
- d. None of the above



8) Consider the following pairs

*Places in News – Country*

1. Osaka – Canada
2. Sylhet – Myanmar
3. Pyongyang – South Korea

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

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

9) World Drug Report is published annually by?

- a. UN Human Rights
- b. World Health Organisation
- c. UN Office on Drugs and Crime
- d. None of the above

10) Consider the following statements with respect to Cholera

1. It is a diarrhoeal disease caused by the virus *Vibrio cholera*.
2. There is no vaccine for the disease Cholera.

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

Answers

1. c

- Each year the General Assembly elects **five** non-permanent members (**out of 10 in total**) for a two-year term.

- The 10 non-permanent seats are distributed on a regional basis as follows:

1. Five for African and Asian States
2. One for Eastern European States
3. Two for the Latin American and Caribbean States
4. Two for Western European and other States

2. d

- Women exposed to **Triclosan** chemical are more likely to develop osteoporosis, a study has found recently.
- It is widely used as an antibacterial in personal care products.
- A person can be exposed to triclosan via consumer products — like **soaps, hand sanitisers, toothpaste, and mouthwash** — and **contaminated water**.
- **Triclosan** is an endocrine-disrupting chemical that has been banned by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) from over-the-counter hand sanitiser in recent years.

3. b

- PMGDISHA is the scheme to make 6 crore persons in rural areas, across States/UTs, digitally literate, reaching to around 40% of rural households by covering **one member from every eligible household** by 31st March 2020.
- The Scheme aims to **bridge the digital divide**, specifically targeting the rural population including the **marginalised sections** of society like Scheduled Castes (SC) / Scheduled Tribes (ST), Minorities, Below Poverty Line (BPL), women and differently-abled persons and minorities.
- The Scheme will be implemented by CSC **e-Governance Services India Limited**, a Special Purpose Vehicle incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956, under the overall supervision of **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeiTy)**.

4. d

- Freshly mined uranium contains more than **99%** of an isotope called **Uranium 238**, which is **not fissile**, plus a tiny fraction of **Uranium 235, which is fissile**.

- Enrichment is the process to **increase the proportion of U-235**.
- It's usually done by passing uranium gas through centrifuges, which rotate at high speeds.
- This process sifts out U-235, which is lighter than U-238.
- The same technology is used to enrich uranium for either nuclear power or nuclear weapons.
- **Nuclear Weapons typically contain uranium enriched to 80% U-235 or more**, which is known as weapon-grade uranium.

5. d

- The partnership between Bharat Biotech and Hilleman Laboratories is aimed at manufacturing and commercialisation of the vaccine tech giant's next-generation Oral **Cholera** Vaccine, **Hillchol**.
- At present, a vaccine for cholera is not part of the government's immunization programme and a vaccine is available only in the private sector.

6. a

- ASCI is a voluntary self-regulatory organization, registered as a not-for-profit company under section 25 of the Indian Companies Act.
- ASCI is **not a Government body**.
- However, ASCI is represented in all committees working on advertising content in every Ministry of the Government of India.

7. b

- An Expert Committee has been constituted by the Government of India under the Chairmanship of Shri B.P. Sharma (former Secretary, DoPT) to examine the issues related to Creamy layer equivalence among the Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBCs).

8. d

1. Osaka – Japan
2. Sylhet – Bangladesh
3. Pyongyang – North Korea

9. c

10. d

- Cholera is a diarrhoeal disease caused by toxigenic serogroups of the **bacterium *Vibrio cholerae***, which can cause rapid dehydration and death.
- Provision of safe water and sanitation is critical to control the transmission of cholera.
- **Oral cholera vaccines** are an additional way to control cholera, but should not replace conventional control measures.
- Currently there are three WHO pre-qualified oral cholera vaccines (OCV).

**28-06-2019**

**1) There are two statements labelled as Assertion (A) and Reason (R)**

**A: Cases of Diphtheria in India have been going up over the last few years.**

**R: Diphtheria vaccine is not a part of India's Universal Immunisation Programme.**

**Choose the best alternative**

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

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

- 1. It is a form of string puppet famous in the state of Andhra Pradesh.**
- 2. It combines the techniques of both rod and string puppets.**
- 3. The puppets used in this form are mostly small in size.**

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

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



d. None

3) Consider the following statements with respect to *Ranjit Singh*

1. He established a unified Sikh empire after he conquered Lahore in 1799.
2. He was given the title, The Lion of Bihar after he stemmed the tide of Chinese invaders in to India.
3. He turned Harimandir Sahib at Amritsar into the Golden Temple by covering it with gold.

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

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

4) Consider the following statements with respect to *Rabies*

1. It is a disease transmitted from animals to humans, which is caused by a virus.
2. It can be completely preventable through vaccine.

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

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

5) *Financial Stability Report* is published by which of the following?

- a. World Economic Forum
- b. International Monetary Fund
- c. World Bank
- d. None of the above

6) With respect to the city of *Jaipur*, consider the following statements

1. It is famously called as the Orange city.
2. It is listed as one of the UNESCO World Heritage site.
3. It forms a part of India's Golden Crescent.

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

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

7) With respect to *Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015*, consider the following statements:

1. The Act permits to consider a child as an adult if, he/she involved in a heinous offences.
2. According to the act, no child can be awarded the death penalty or life imprisonment.

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

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

8) Recently, Indian Prime Minister holds *JAI Trilateral meeting* on the sidelines of the G-20 meeting. JAI constitutes which of the following countries?

1. Japan
2. America
3. Jordan
4. Australia

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a. 1 and 2 only



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

9) Consider the following statements with respect to *Painted Stork*

1. It has been classified as near threatened under the IUCN Red List.
2. It is found only in the northern part of India.

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

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

10) Consider the following statements with respect to *BRICS Grouping*

1. All the five members of BRICS grouping were members of G-20 grouping.
2. The 11th annual BRICS Summit was recently held in Osaka, Japan.

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

## Answers

1. c

### Explanation

- The diphtheria vaccine is among the oldest vaccines in India's Universal Immunisation Programme.

2. a

- Puppets from *Tamil Nadu*, known as *Bommalattam* combine the techniques of *both rod and string puppets*.

- They are made of wood and the strings for manipulation are tied to an iron ring which the puppeteer wears like a crown on his head.
- A few puppets have jointed arms and hands, which are manipulated by rods.
- The Bommalattam puppets are the largest, heaviest and the most articulate of all traditional Indian marionettes.
- Bommalattam theatre has elaborate preliminaries which are divided into four parts - *Vinayak Puja, Komali, Amanattam and Pusenkanattam*.

3. b

- Ranjit Singh was born on November 13, 1780 in Gujranwala, now in Pakistan.
- At that time, Punjab was ruled by powerful chieftains who had divided the territory into Misls.
- Ranjit Singh overthrew the warring Misls and *established a unified Sikh empire after he conquered Lahore in 1799*.
- He was given the title *Lion of Punjab* (Sher-e-Punjab) because he *stemmed the tide of Afghan invaders in Lahore*, which remained his capital until his death.
- The maharaja was known for his just and secular rule; both Hindus and Muslims were given powerful positions in his darbar.
- The Sikhs take pride in him for he *turned Harimandir Sahib at Amritsar into the Golden Temple* by covering it with gold.
- *Recently, a statue of Ranjit Singh (1801-39) was inaugurated in Lahore*.

4. c

- Rabies is a disease transmitted from animals to humans, which is caused by a *virus*.
- There are two clinical manifestations of rabies – frantic and paralytic.
- Frantic rabies is most common form of human rabies.
- Rabies causes an estimated 21,000 deaths in India each year, despite being *completely vaccine preventable*.

5. d

- **Global Financial Stability Report** is released by **International Monetary Fund (IMF)**
- **Financial Stability Report** is released by **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**.

6. d

- India's **golden triangle** is a tourist circuit which connects the national capital Delhi, Agra and **Jaipur**.
- Jaipur, or the **Pink City** as it famously called, is the sole Indian **nominee** for the prestigious UNESCO World Heritage List this year.

7. b

- The Act treats all the children below 18 years equally, except that those in the **age group of 16-18 (not all children)** can be tried as adults if they commit a heinous crime.
- No child can be awarded the death penalty or life imprisonment.
- *For the first time in the country, a court in Hyderabad has recently sentenced a **19-year-old man** to **rigorous life imprisonment** for having unnatural sex with a minor boy and murdering him two years ago as a juvenile.*
- *As per the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, juveniles in conflict with the law in the age group of 16-18 can be tried as adults if they are involved in heinous offences.*

8. a

- Prime Minister has recently held trilateral discussions with his Japanese counterpart and US President under JAI (**Japan, America, India**) on the sidelines of G-20 meeting.

9. a

- It is found in Tamilnadu also.

10. a

- The 11th annual summit is planned to be held in **Brazil**.

**29-06-2019**

1) **EQUIP** sometimes seen in the news recently is a five year vision plan associated with which of the following sector?

- Education
- Agriculture
- Skill Development
- Artificial Intelligence

2) Consider the following statements with respect to **Treaty of Versailles**

- Germany initiated the treaty and was a devoted supporter of its terms.
- The Treaty of Versailles contributed to the stability and peace of the European continent after the First World War.

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

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

3) Consider the following statements with respect to **Singhey Khababs Sindhu Festival**

- It is also known as Megha dharshan.
- It is a major festival celebrated by the Mishmi tribes of Arunachal Pradesh.
- This festival will be celebrated every year on the banks of Subansiri River.

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

- 2 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3
- None



4) Which one of the following is not the provision of *National AYUSH Mission (NAM)*?

- Co-location of AYUSH facilities at Primary Health Centres (PHCs) and District Hospitals (DHs)
- Promotion of AYUSH medicines in schools and colleges
- Cultivation and Promotion of Medicinal Plants
- Setting up of new State Government AYUSH Educational Institutions in the State where it is not available

5) With respect to *GAMA Portal*, consider the following statements:

- It is a dedicated web portal for registering online complaints for grievances against misleading advertisements.
- It was launched by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

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

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

6) Consider the following statements

- There is no Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Milk in India.
- Prices of Milk in India is regulated by the Department of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying.

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

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

7) Consider the following statements with respect to *Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana*

- The basic objective of the scheme is to provide enhanced insurance cover to the handloom weavers.
- The Scheme will be administered through the State Bank of India.

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

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

8) Consider the following pairs:

- INS Tarkash – War Ship
- INS Vagli – Submarine

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

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

9) *Aruna Sundararajan Committee* sometimes seen in the news recently is associated with which of the following sectors?

- Telecom reforms
- Mutual Fund norms
- Aviation safety
- Defence reforms

10) *JL-3* is a submarine launched ballistic missile tested recently by which of the following countries?

- Japan
- Russia
- China

d. North Korea

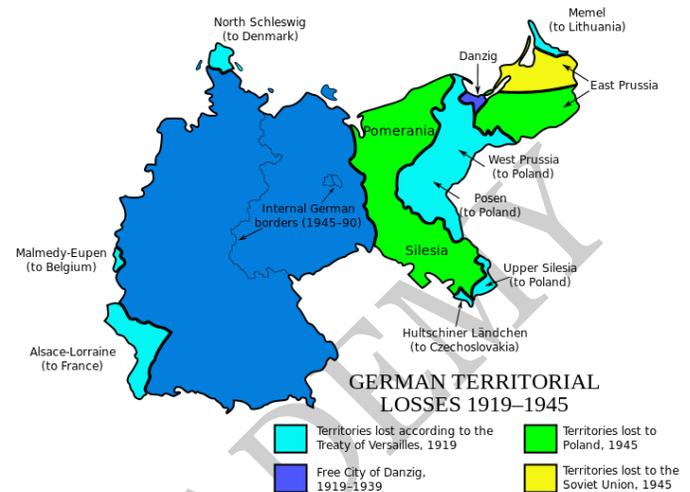
## Answers

1. a

- The Centre has released a **five-year vision and action plan** to transform **higher education** by doubling enrolment and employability, addressing inequalities of access, and revamping governance and funding mechanisms.
- The Education Quality Upgradation and Inclusion Programme (EQUIP) is likely to involve investment of Rs. 1.5 lakh crore over the next five years, much of which will have to be raised from the market.

2. d

- The Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, **without Germany**.
- The Treaty placed a heavy burden on Germany's burgeoning democracy.
- In Germany, many dismissed the treaty as a "dictated peace" due to its harsh terms.
- Germany only signed the treaty after the Allies threatened to invade the country.
- The victorious powers — led by the United States, Britain, France and Italy — declared Germany and its allies to be solely responsible for the outbreak of World War I.
- The Treaty of Versailles **failed to create a lasting peace on the European continent**.
- Adolf Hitler's rise to power once again transformed Germany into a disruptive nation, with building up army, and alliances with other fascist countries like Italy and Spain.



3. d

- In **Ladakh** region of **Jammu and Kashmir**, tourist's promotional festival - **Ladakh Singhey Khababs Sindhu Festival** (also called as **Sindhu Dharsan**) is celebrated recently on the bank of **Indus River** at Leh.
- Folk songs and dances are performed and local handicrafts and ethnic foods are being exhibited before the tourists during the festival.

4. b

The National AYUSH Mission (NAM) inter-alia makes provision for the following: -

- Co-location of AYUSH facilities at Primary Health Centers (PHCs), Community Health Centers (CHCs) and District Hospitals (DHs).
- Up gradation of exclusive State Government AYUSH Hospitals and Dispensaries.
- Setting up of up to 50 bedded integrated AYUSH Hospital.
- Up-gradation of State Government Educational Institutions.
- Setting up of new State Government AYUSH Educational Institutions in the State where it is not available.
- Strengthening of State Government/ Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy (ASU&H) Pharmacies and Drug Testing Laboratories (DTL).

7. Cultivation and Promotion of Medicinal Plants.
5. a
- It is a dedicated online web portal launched by **Ministry of Consumer Affairs** to enable consumers to register their **Grievances Against Misleading Advertisements (GAMA)** which makes claims that are dubious or unverified.
  - GAMA serves as a central registry for complaints against misleading advertisements.
6. a
- The Department of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying does not regulate the prices of milk in the country.
  - Prices are decided by the Cooperative and Private dairies based on cost of production.
  - Since milk is a highly perishable product, the dairying department does not have any proposal to fix MSP for milk in the country.
7. a
- The Scheme will be administered by the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC).
  - The basic objective of the scheme is to provide enhanced insurance cover to the handloom weavers in the case of natural as well as accidental death and in cases of total or partial disability.
8. c
- **INS Vagli** is a **submarine** decommissioned and handed over to Tamil Nadu Government in 2013 to set up it as a submarine museum in Mamallapuram on the East Coast Road.
  - Recently, the Tamil Nadu government has decided that it is not feasible to implement the project.
  - In a demonstration of India's commitment to its ties with Egypt and of Indian Navy's increasing footprint and operational reach, Indian Naval Ship (INS) Tarkash arrived at Alexandria on 28 June 2019 for a three day visit.
  - **INS Tarkash** is a state of the art **warship** of the Indian Navy equipped with a versatile range of weapons and sensors capable of addressing threats in all the three dimensions.
9. a
- To review levies, including spectrum usage charge (SUC), and promote ease of doing business in the **telecom sector**, a committee was formed.
  - It will be headed by Telecom Secretary **Aruna Sundararajan**.
10. c
- **China** has successfully tested its latest submarine launched ballistic missile, JL-3.