

**Que-1 With reference to Pravasi Bhartiya Divas, consider the following statements**

- 1- The 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas 2023 will be held at Pune.
- 2- Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is celebrated every year on 9th January to mark the contribution of the overseas Indian community in the development of India.
- 3- It commemorates the return of Mahatma Gandhi from South Africa to India on 9th January 1915.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-2 Consider the following statements about Exercise Pitch Black**

- 1- An Indian Air Force contingent is participating in Exercise Pitch Black 2022 in Australia being held in Darwin.
- 2- This is a yearly, multi-national exercise hosted by the Royal Australian Air Force.
- 3- It will focus on Large Force Employment warfare.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-3 With reference to historical and cultural connections between India and Southeast Asia region, consider the following statements**

- 1- The classical Sanskrit and Pali texts from India carry references of the Southeast Asia region using various names such as Kathakosha, Suvarnabhumi (the land of god) or Suvarnadvipa (the golden island), indicating that this was a region that attracted Indian merchants.
- 2- In more recent times, European and Indian scholars have referred to Southeast Asia as 'Farther India', 'Greater India', or 'Hinduised or Indianised states'.
- 3- The first person to do an in depth study of the process of 'Indianisation' in Southeast Asian countries was a French scholar named George Coedes.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-4 With reference to Lord Curzon, the Viceroy of India, consider the following statements**

1- Curzon created a separate Muslim majority province of the North-West Frontier Province.

2- He sent a British expedition to Tibet, established a separate Administrative service, and established the Allahabad High Court.

3- He is the man who partitioned Bengal in 1905, and triggered a wave of Bengali nationalism that contributed to the wider Indian national movement.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-5 Consider the following statements about AK-203 rifles**

1- This would manufacture by the Indo-Russian joint venture at Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh.

2- It is one of the latest iterations of the AK series of assault rifles originally designed by Mikhail Kalashnikov.

3- It is a Russian gas-operated, magazine-fed, select fire assault rifle.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-6 Consider the following statements about “per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances,” (PFAs), which are called “forever chemicals”**

1- PFAs are man-made chemicals used to make nonstick cookware, water-repellent clothing, stain-resistant fabrics, cosmetics, firefighting forms and many other products that resist grease, water and oil.

2- PFAs can migrate to the soil, water and air during their production and use.

3- Since most PFAs easily break down, they remain in the environment for long periods of time.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-7 With reference to China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), consider the following statements**

1- Launched in 2015, CPEC, which connects Karachi Port in Pakistan's Balochistan with China's Xinjiang province.

2- It is the flagship project of China's ambitious multi-billion-dollar Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

3- India has objected to CPEC as it is being laid through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK).

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-8 What is facial recognition?**

1- Facial recognition is an algorithm-based technology which creates a digital map of the face by identifying and mapping an individual's facial features, which it then matches against the database to which it has access.

2- It can be used for verification of identity wherein the facial map is obtained for the purpose of matching it against the person's photograph on a database to authenticate their identity.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**ANSWER**

1- (d)

- The 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas 2023 will be held at Indore.

2- (b)

- An Indian Air Force contingent is participating in Exercise Pitch Black 2022 in Australia being held from August 19 to 8th September in Darwin.

- This is a biennial, multi-national exercise hosted by the Royal Australian Air Force. It will focus on Large Force Employment warfare.

- The last edition was conducted in 2018. The 2020 edition of the exercise was cancelled due to the COVID pandemic. This year's exercise will see the participation of over 100 aircraft and 2500 military personnel from various air forces.

3- (c)

- India and the Southeast Asia region share a long history of cultural and commercial relations. The classical Sanskrit and Pali texts from India carry references of the region using various names such as Kathakosha,

Suvarnabhumi (the land of god) or Suvarnadvipa (the golden island), indicating that this was a region that attracted Indian merchants. Trade in spices, aromatic wood and most importantly gold is known to have flourished.

- The first person to do an in depth study of the process of 'Indianisation' in Southeast Asian countries was a French scholar named George Coedes. He coined the term 'Farther India' to refer to those states that experienced "the civilising activity of India'. Geographically, it refers to Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Myanmar and the Malay states.
- The Sanskrit, Buddhist, and Jain texts indicate that interactions between the two regions go back more than two thousand years ago, mainly through sea voyages and that trade played an important role.

4- (b)

- He sent a British expedition to Tibet, established a separate police service, and established the Archaeological Survey of India, in order to study and protect historical monuments.
- A staunch imperialist, he took a series of extremely unpopular measures, including passing, in 1899, the Calcutta Municipal Amendment Act

which reduced the number of elected representatives in the Calcutta Corporation; the Indian Universities Act (1904), that placed Calcutta University under government control, and the Indian Official Secrets Amendment Act (1904) that reduced the freedom of the press even further.

- Curzon believed that the Indian National Congress had lost its influence and appeal amongst the Indians, and in 1900 declared that the organisation was "tottering to its fall". Ironically though, it was his biggest and most reviled decision — to partition Bengal in 1905 — that led to a spurt in nationalist sentiment and revitalized the Congress.

5- (d)

- The manufacture of the AK-203 assault rifles by the Indo-Russian joint venture at Amethi, Uttar Pradesh is set to begin by year-end and the manufacturing equipment required for it will be dispatched from Russia shortly.

6- (a)

- Since most PFAs do not break down, they remain in the environment for long periods of time.
- A variety of health risks that are attributed to PFA exposure, including decreased fertility, developmental

effects in children, interference with body hormones, increased cholesterol levels and increased risk of some cancers. Recent research has also revealed that long-term low-level exposure to certain PFAs can make it difficult for humans to build antibodies after being vaccinated against various diseases.

7- (d)

- Launched in 2015, CPEC, which connects Gwadar Port in Pakistan's Balochistan with China's Xinjiang province.

8- (c)

- Facial recognition is an algorithm-based technology which creates a digital map of the face by identifying and mapping an individual's facial features, which it then matches against the database to which it has access. It can be used for two purposes: firstly, 1:1 verification of identity wherein the facial map is obtained for the purpose of matching it against the person's photograph on a database to authenticate their identity. For example, 1:1 verification is used to unlock phones. However, increasingly it is being used to provide access to any benefits or government schemes. Secondly, there is the 1:n identification of identity wherein the facial map is obtained from a

photograph or video and then matched against the entire database to identify the person in the photograph or video. Law enforcement agencies such as the Delhi Police usually procure FRT for 1:n identification.

- For 1:n identification, FRT generates a probability or a match score between the suspect who is to be identified and the available database of identified criminals. A list of possible matches are generated on the basis of their likelihood to be the correct match with corresponding match scores. However, ultimately it is a human analyst who selects the final probable match from the list of matches generated by FRT. According to Internet Freedom Foundation's Project Panoptic, which tracks the spread of FRT in India, there are at least 124 government authorised FRT projects in the country.