

# GES REPORTER

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Q.1

It is a serious question in a parliamentary democracy wherein bill after bill, the wisdom of a directly elected house is questioned repeatedly by the indirectly elected house. Critically evaluate the role of Rajya Sabha. (12.5)

Rajya Sabha being the second chamber of parliament plays a check role in our democracy. It is more powerful than the House of Lords of British parliament.

Role of Rajya Sabha:

1. House of veterans:

Rajya Sabha houses veterans who are well experienced and who bring with them years of political acumen. Their inputs serve the purpose of intense scrutiny of acts.

2. Check on the Lok Sabha:

Any act which is passed by Lok Sabha, which caters to political benefits gets checked by Rajya Sabha. Even in money bill, it can give suggestions which can act as moral guide to Lok Sabha.

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कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

# UPSC

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# UPSC

Union Public Service Commission

**Civil Service**

**Que-1 With reference to Bhavnagar, consider the following statements**

1- Bhavnagar Port is a seaport in Kutch region of Gujarat state.

2- World's first CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) terminal will be established here.

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
- 

**Que-2 Consider the following statements about Operation Garuda, recently in News**

1- The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) carried out 'Operation Garuda' - a joint operation with Interpol and state police forces.

2- To bust drug networks in India with international links.

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
- 

**Que-3 With reference to International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), consider the following statements**

1- This is a specialized agency of the United Nations that coordinates the principles and techniques of international air navigation, and fosters the planning and development of international air transport to ensure safe and orderly growth.

2- ICAO headquarters are located in the Washington D.C., USA.

3- This has recently become the latest United Nations agency to join the International Solar Alliance (ISA).

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-4 With reference to Zhurong rover, consider the following statements**

1- The rover is Japan's first mission to Mars.

2- It landed on Mars in 2021 has recently found evidence of major floods that took place billions of years ago by studying underground layers.

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

**Que-5 Consider the following statements about Global Innovation Index 2022**

1- India, for the first time, made it to the top 40 countries at the Global Innovation Index (GII) in 2022.

2- Released by World Intellectual Property Organization.

3- Norway has emerged as the world's most innovative economy for the 12th consecutive year.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-6 UNESCO had recently released a list of 50 exclusive and iconic heritage textile crafts of the country. Few among them are**

1- Toda embroidery and Sungadi from Kerala.

2- Himroo weaves from Hyderabad.

3- Bandha tie and dye weaving from Sambalpur in Odisha.

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 Consider the following statements about recent Supreme Court judgement on right to safe and legal abortion**

1- Supreme Court allowed unmarried and single women whose pregnancies are between 20 and 24 weeks to access safe and legal abortion care on par with their married counterparts.

2- The Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act of 1971 and its Rules of 2003 prohibit unmarried women who are between 20 weeks to 24 weeks pregnant to abort with the help of registered medical practitioners.

3- The rights of reproductive autonomy, dignity and privacy under Article 21 of the Constitution gives an unmarried woman the right of choice as to whether or not to bear a child on a similar footing as that of a married woman.

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-8 Consider the following statements about Scheme Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment for 2022-23, recently launched**

1- Under this Scheme, financial assistance is provided to the States Governments in the form of 25-year interest free loan for capital investment projects.

2- An amount of Rs 3000 Crore is earmarked and will be available to States for capital projects on Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) network.

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- (b)
- Bhavnagar Port is a seaport in Saurashtra region of Gujarat state.
- 2- (c)
- The CBI had launched 'Operation Garuda' in multiple phases to "disrupt, degrade and dismantle" drug networks with international links. The agency carried out the operation using Interpol's resources to track rapid exchange of criminal intelligence on drug trafficking.
  - The probe agency also coordinated law enforcement actions across international jurisdiction through Interpol.
  - The global operation was initiated in close coordination with Interpol and the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), to combat the illegal smuggling of illicit drugs and psychotropic substances, with special focus on the Indian Ocean Region.
  - The operation targeted drug networks with international footprints, so action can be taken against handlers, operatives, production zones and support elements. The CBI and NCB worked by coordinating with the police forces of all the states and union territories for information

exchange, analysis and development of operational information.

3- (b)

- ICAO headquarters are located in the Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

4- (b)

- The rover is China's first mission to Mars.
- China's Zhurong rover that landed on Mars in 2021 has found evidence of major floods that took place billions of years ago by studying underground layers.
- The rover with ground-penetrating radar identified two horizontal layers underneath its landing site Utopia Planitia in the northern half of the Red Planet. These are the rover's first results of the radar imager.
- Liquid water was not found but each of these layers at depths of 10-80 metres had smaller rocks spread over larger ones.

5- (a)

- India, for the first time, made it to the top 40 countries at the Global Innovation Index (GII), led by improvement in information and communication technologies (ICT) services exports, venture capital

recipients' value, and finance for startups.

- India's six-notch jump to the 40th spot in the 132-nation GI in 2022 from 46th rank in 2021 made it to the top most innovative lower middle-income economy in the world, overtaking Vietnam.
- Switzerland remains the world's leader in innovation for the 12th consecutive year. It leads globally in innovation outputs, and specifically in patents by origin, software spending, high-tech manufacturing, production, and export complexity. The second position was secured by the US followed by Sweden, the UK, and the Netherlands.
- India continues to lead the world in the ICT services exports indicator with the first rank while holding top rankings in other indicators, including Venture capital recipients' value (6th), Finance for startups and scaleups (8th), Graduates in science and engineering (11th), Labor productivity growth (12th) and Domestic industry diversification (14th).

6- (d)

- Toda embroidery and Sungadi from Tamil Nadu.



- Handmade for the 21st Century: Safeguarding Traditional Indian Textile lists the histories and legends behind the textiles, describes the complicated and secret processes behind their making, mentions the causes for their dwindling popularity, and provides strategies for their preservation.
  - According to UNESCO, one of the major challenges to the safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in the South Asia is lack of proper inventory and documentation. The publication, which aims to bridge this gap, brings together years of research on the 50 selected textiles.
  - Some of the iconic handcrafted textiles documented from north India are Khes from Panipat, Chamba rumals from Himachal Pradesh, Thigma or wool tie and dye from Ladakh and Awadh Jamdani from Varanasi.
- 7- (c)
- The court declared that prohibiting single or unmarried pregnant women with pregnancies between 20 and 24 weeks from accessing abortion while allowing married women with the same term of pregnancy to access the care was violative of the right to equality before law and equal protection (Article 14).
- The court said a single woman may have suffered the same “change in material circumstances” as a married pregnant woman. She may have been abandoned or without a job or been a victim of violence during her pregnancy.
  - Her life could be in danger due to foetal abnormalities. She may have been a victim of sexual exploitation leading to the pregnancy. There would be cases in which she could have got pregnant due to contraceptive failure, leaving her in a state of mental anguish.
- 8- (b)
- The Government of India has launched a Scheme Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment for 2022-23. Under this Scheme, financial assistance is provided to the States Governments in the form of 50-year interest free loan for capital investment projects.
  - Under Part V (Optical Fibre Cable) of the Scheme, an amount of Rs 3000 Crore is earmarked and will be available to States for capital projects on Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) network. On the recommendation of Department of Telecommunications, Department of Expenditure has recently approved proposals of four States namely Uttarakhand,

Jharkhand, Haryana and Karnataka  
with allocation as 50 Cr, 84 Cr, 65 Cr  
and 156 Cr respectively.

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**Que-1 The Uttar Pradesh (UP) cabinet had recently approved the notification of the state's fourth tiger reserve in**

- a) Dudhwa
- b) Chitrakoot
- c) Pilibhit
- d) Amangarh

**Que-2 With reference to Global Methane Pledge, consider the following statements**

- 1- Launched in 2021.
- 2- It aims to keep alive the 1.5 degrees Celsius goal.
- 3- Over a 100 countries, including India, have committed to reducing global methane emissions by at least 30 per cent by 2030 from 2020 levels.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-3 With reference to the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA), consider the following statements**

- 1- It gives armed forces the power to maintain public order in "disturbed areas".

2- Armed forces have the authority to prohibit a gathering of ten or more persons in an area, can use force or even open fire after giving due warning if they feel a person is in contravention of the law.

3- If reasonable suspicion exists, the army can also arrest a person without a warrant; enter or search a premises without a warrant; and ban the possession of firearms.

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 Consider the following statements about "Disturbed area" under Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA)**

1- A disturbed area is one which is declared by notification under Section 3 of the AFSPA.

2- The Central Government, or the Governor of the State or administrator of the Union Territory can declare the whole or part of the State or Union Territory as a disturbed area.

3- An area can be disturbed due to differences or disputes between members of different religious, racial, language or regional groups or castes or communities.

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-5 With reference to RBI's Monetary Policy Committee, consider the following statements**

- 1- The primary objective of the RBI's monetary policy is to maintain price stability while keeping in mind the objective of growth.
- 2- Under Section 45ZB of the amended RBI Act, 1934, the central government is empowered to constitute a six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) to determine the policy interest rate required to achieve the inflation target.
- 3- The meetings of the Monetary Policy Committee are held at end of every month.

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 Core Infrastructure sector**

- 1- In India, there are eight sectors that are considered the core sectors.
- 2- The eight-core sectors of the Indian economy are electricity, steel, refinery products, crude oil, coal, cement, natural gas and fertilizers.
- 3- The Core sector have a combined share of 40.27 per cent in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP), which gives the growth rates of different industry groups in a specified period.

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-7 Russia had recently annexed four territories in Ukraine controlled by his army at a grand ceremony in the Kremlin. They are**

- 1- Crimea  
2- Donetsk  
3- Zaporizhzhia

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

## ANSWER

### Que-8 What is Black cocaine?

1- A rare drug, is a mixture of regular cocaine and other chemicals of administrated quantity.

2- It neutralises the smell of cocaine so that it can pass through checkpoints easily.

3- Black cocaine is a mixture of regular cocaine base with various substances to camouflage typical appearance (e.g. charcoal).

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

1- (b)

- The Uttar Pradesh (UP) cabinet had recently approved the notification of the state's fourth tiger reserve in the Ranipur Wildlife Sanctuary (RWS) in Chitrakoot district.
- The Ranipur Tiger Reserve has tropical dry deciduous forests and is home to fauna such as tigers, leopards, sloth bears, spotted deer, sambhar, chinkara and a number of birds and reptiles.
- The Ranipur Tiger Reserve will be the fourth in UP, after Dudhwa, Pilibhit and Amangarh (buffer of Corbett Tiger Reserve). It will also be the first in the state's portion of the Bundelkhand region, which it shares with neighbouring Madhya Pradesh.

2- (a)

- The Global Methane Pledge, launched in 2021, aims to keep alive the 1.5 degrees Celsius goal. Over a 100 countries have committed to reducing global methane emissions by at least 30 per cent by 2030 from 2020 levels. This reduction could eliminate over 0.2°C warming by 2050.
- India, which is not a part of the Global Methane Pledge, is among the top five methane emitters globally, according

to the International Energy Agency. Most emissions can be traced back to agriculture.

- Methane and short-lived climate pollutants like hydrofluorocarbons stay in the Earth's atmosphere for a few years, unlike carbon dioxide.
- Experts, however, warned that their potential to warm the atmosphere could be 80-1,500 times greater.

3- (b)

- Armed forces have the authority to prohibit a gathering of five or more persons in an area, can use force or even open fire after giving due warning if they feel a person is in contravention of the law.

- Any person arrested or taken into custody may be handed over to the officer in charge of the nearest police station along with a report detailing the circumstances that led to the arrest.

4- (c)

- A disturbed area is one which is declared by notification under Section 3 of the AFSPA. An area can be disturbed due to differences or disputes between members of different religious, racial, language or regional groups or castes or communities.

- The Central Government, or the Governor of the State or administrator of the Union Territory can declare the whole or part of the State or Union Territory as a disturbed area. A suitable notification would have to be made in the Official Gazette.

- As per Section 3, it can be invoked in places where "the use of armed forces in aid of the civil power is necessary".

- The Ministry of Home Affairs would usually enforce this Act where necessary, but there have been exceptions where the Centre decided to forego its power and leave the decision to the State governments.

5- (a)

- Section 45ZB lays down that "the Monetary Policy Committee shall determine the Policy Rate required to achieve the inflation target", and that "the decision of the Monetary Policy Committee shall be binding on the Bank".

- Section 45ZB says the MPC shall consist of the RBI Governor as its ex officio chairperson, the Deputy Governor in charge of monetary policy, an officer of the Bank to be nominated by the Central Board, and three persons to be appointed by the central government. The last category

of appointments must be from “persons of ability, integrity and standing, having knowledge and experience in the field of economics or banking or finance or monetary policy”. (Section 45ZC)

- The meetings of the Monetary Policy Committee are held at least four times a year (specifically, at least once a quarter) and it publishes its decisions after each such meeting.

6- (c)

- Before the IIP is released, the Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI) is prepared every month and released by the Office of the Economic Adviser (OEA), Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), and Ministry of Commerce & Industry.
- The ICI gives an indication of the production performance of the industries which are of a ‘core’ nature and measures the individual and collective performances of the production in these eight core industries.
- Components to calculate the ICI:
  - Coal – Coal production, excluding Coking coal.
  - Electricity – Electricity generation of thermal, nuclear, hydro, imports from Bhutan.

- Crude Oil – Total crude oil production.
- Cement – Production in large plants and mini plants.
- Natural Gas – Total production of natural gas.
- Steel – Production of alloy and non-alloy steel only.
- Refinery Products – Total refinery production.
- Fertilizer – Urea, ammonium sulfate, calcium ammonium nitrate, complex grade fertilizer, and single superphosphate, among others.

7- (d)

- President Vladimir Putin had recently announced there are “four new regions of Russia” as he announced the formal annexation of the Kherson, Zaporizhzhia, Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine.
- The four regions were partially seized by Moscow's forces during a seven-month conflict with Ukraine. Russia declared the annexations after holding what it called referendums in occupied areas of Ukraine. Western governments and Kyiv said the votes breached international law and were coercive and unrepresentative.

8- (c)

- “Black cocaine”, a rare drug, is a mixture of regular cocaine and other chemicals of administered quantity. In a bid to ensure that sniffer dogs used at airports do not detect cocaine, it is being used by drug peddlers coming to India from South American countries. It neutralises the smell of cocaine so that it can pass through checkpoints easily. Black cocaine is a mixture of regular cocaine base with various substances to camouflage typical appearance (e.g. charcoal), to interfere with colour-based drug tests (cobalt salts form deep red complexes in solution), to make the mixture undetectable by drug-sniffing dogs as activated carbon may sufficiently absorb trace odours.
  - The pure cocaine base is then recovered from the mixture by extraction using common organic solvents such as methylene chloride or acetone. A second process is required to convert the cocaine base into powdered cocaine hydrochloride.
-



**Que-1 With reference to G20 Sherpa, consider the following statements**

- 1- A sherpa is the Secretary of the G7 and G-20 Secretariat.
- 2- They prepares an international summit, such as the annual G7 and G20 summits.
- 3- The name is derived from the Sherpa people, a Nepalese ethnic group, who serve as guides and porters in the Himalayas.

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**

- 1- Peak Internet speeds on 5G could touch 10 Gbps compared to 100 Mbps in 4G.
- 2- Latency in 4G is between 10 and 100 millisecond, in 5G it is expected to be under 1 ms.
- 3- 5G networks are deployed mainly on five modes.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-3 From October 1, the Reserve Bank of India's card-on-file (CoF) tokenisation norms have kicked in. With reference to Tokenisation, consider the following statements**

- 1- This refers to the replacement of actual card details with a unique alternate code called the 'token'.
- 2- It aim at improved safety and security of card transactions.
- 3- This token shall be unique for a combination of card, token requester.

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-4 With reference to Swachh Survekshan 2022, consider the following statements**

- 1- Bhopal has been adjudged the cleanest city of India for the sixth year in a row.
- 2- Surat is the second cleanest city and Navi Mumbai comes a close third in the category of cities with a population more than a lakh.
- 3- In the population category of less than one lakh, Panchgani and Karad from Maharashtra bagged the first and third

positions respectively, while Patan from Chhattisgarh bagged the second position.

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-5 The University Grants Commission has issued guidelines for engaging “Professors of Practice” or distinguished experts from different fields at institutions of higher education. As per guidelines**

1- These professors are not required to have the educational qualifications usually mandated for teaching and they can be paid through corporate sponsorship or an honorarium.

2- Distinguished experts who have made a “remarkable contribution” in fields such as engineering, science, technology, social sciences, defence forces, community development, organic farming, panchayati raj, public administration, among others and with an experience of at least 15 years will be eligible for the scheme.

3- The “Professors of Practice” roles are also open to those from the teaching profession, serving or retired.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

- a) 1 and 2 only      b) 1 only

- c) 1, 2 and 3      d) 2 and 3 only

**Que-6 What are the Nord Stream pipelines, recently in News?**

1- Nord Stream 1 is a 1,224 km underwater gas pipeline running from Vyborg in northwest Russia to Lubmin in northeastern Germany via the Baltic Sea.

2- The majority owned by the Russian energy giant ExxonMobil.

3- Most of the gas goes directly to Germany, while the rest travels west and southwards through onshore links to other countries and into storage caverns.

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) 3 only

**Que-7 With reference to Telecom Technology Development Fund scheme, consider the following statements**

1- Launched by Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF).

2- It aims to fund R&D in rural-specific communication technology applications and form synergies among academia, start-ups, research institutes, and the industry to build and develop the telecom ecosystem.

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****Que-8 Consider the following statements about International Day of Older Persons**

1- October 2 is observed as the International Day of Older Persons across the globe.

2- The day was introduced by the United Nations General Assembly with an aim of honouring the contribution of older persons and looking into the problems that they face.

3- This year, the theme is “Resilience of Older Persons in a Changing World.”

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
- 

1- (d)

- The name is derived from the Sherpa people, a Nepalese ethnic group, who serve as guides and porters in the Himalayas, a reference to the fact that the sherpa clears the way for a head of state at a major summit.
- A sherpa is the personal representative of a head of state or head of government.
- The G-20 brings together the world’s developed and developing economies, accounting for 85 per cent of the global GDP, 75 per cent of international trade and two-thirds of the world’s population, making it an influential forum for international economic cooperation. As the G-20 presidency, India will set the agenda for the year, identify the themes and focus areas, conduct discussions and work out outcome documents. The G-20 Leaders’ Summit will be held in India for the first time in 2023.
- The G-20 process is basically divided into the Sherpa track and the Finance track. Under the Sherpa track, about 100 official meetings are expected to be organised in the areas of employment, health, digital economy, trade, investment and industry, environment and climate, energy,

anti-corruption, agriculture, tourism, culture, socio-economic development, education, and women empowerment.

- Under the Finance track, about 40 meetings are expected to be organised including in the areas of international financial architecture, financial inclusion and sustainable finance, financing for infrastructure, climate finance and tax matters.

2- (a)

- Consumers could enjoy superior Internet speeds and benefit from the low latency of 5G. Peak Internet speeds on 5G could touch 10 Gbps compared to 100 Mbps in 4G; while latency in 4G is between 10 and 100 millisecond, in 5G it is expected to be under 1 ms.
- Latency is the time it takes for a device to send packets of data and get a response. The smaller the latency, the quicker the response.
- 5G networks are deployed mainly on two modes: standalone and non-standalone. Each architecture has its advantages and disadvantages, and the path chosen by operators primarily reflects their view of the market for the new technology, and the consequent rollout strategy.

- In the standalone mode, which Jio has chosen, the 5G network operates with dedicated equipment and runs parallel to the existing 4G network. Jio has committed an investment of Rs 2 lakh crore for its standalone 5G network.

- In the non-standalone mode, the 5G network is supported by the 4G core infrastructure. Given that the non-standalone networks are built on existing infrastructure, the initial cost and rollout times are significantly lower. The non-standalone mode, which Bharti Airtel has opted for, lets operators maximise the utilisation of existing network infrastructure with relatively lower investment.

- Non-standalone networks are generally considered to be a stepping stone, and global precedent suggests operators who have launched non-standalone 5G networks eventually transition to standalone networks.

3- (c)

- Tokenisation refers to the replacement of actual card details with a unique alternate code called the 'token', which shall be unique for a combination of card, token requester, (i.e. the entity which accepts requests from the customer for tokenisation of a card and passes it

on to the card network to issue a corresponding token) and the device.

- A debit or credit card holder can get the card tokenised by initiating a request on the app provided by the token requester. The token requester will forward the request to the card network which, with the consent of the card issuer, will issue a token corresponding to the combination of the card, the token requester, and the device.
- Earlier, the facility for card tokenisation was available only for mobile phones and tablets of interested card holders. Subsequently, with an uptick in tokenisation volume, the RBI decided to extend the scope of tokenisation to include consumer devices – laptops, desktops, wearables (wrist watches, bands, etc.) and Internet of Things (IoT) devices.

4- (d)

- Indore has been adjudged the cleanest city of India for the sixth year in a row, while Madhya Pradesh is the cleanest state in the country.
- Tirupati received the best city award in Safai Mitra Suraksha category, while Haridwar in Uttarakhand received the award for the best Ganga town in more than one lakh

population cities. Shivamogga in Karnataka received the fast mover city award.

- The State awards saw Madhya Pradesh emerge as the Cleanest State in the category of “more than 100 Urban Local Bodies”, relegating Chhattisgarh, the cleanest State of the previous three years, to second place. Maharashtra emerged as third cleanest State.
- Similarly, Tripura got the cleanest State award in the “less than 100 urban local bodies category”, dislodging Jharkhand, which had won in the past two consecutive years. Jharkhand and Uttarakhand received the second and third spots respectively.

5- (a)

- The “Professors of Practice” roles are not open to those from the teaching profession, serving or retired.
- This will help to take real world practice and experiences into the classrooms and also augment the faculty resources in higher education institutions (HEIs) in line with the National Education Policy 2020 that seeks to transform higher education by focusing on skill-based education to meet the needs of the industry and the economy and recommends

integrating vocational education with general education and strengthening industry-academia collaboration in HEIs.

6- (b)

- The majority owned by the Russian energy giant Gazprom.

7- (c)

- The Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF), a body under the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) on Saturday launched the Telecom Technology Development Fund (TTDF) scheme, coinciding with the launch of 5G services.
- The scheme aims to promote technology ownership and indigenous manufacturing, create a culture of technology co-innovation, reduce imports, boost export opportunities and creation of Intellectual Property.
- Under the scheme, USOF is also targeting to develop standards to meet countrywide requirements and create the ecosystem for research, design, prototyping, use cases, pilots, and proof of concept testing, among others.
- The Centre in the draft telecom bill has said that the USOF, created under the Indian Telegraph Act of 1885, shall be referred to as the

“Telecommunication Development Fund”.

8- (d)

- October 1 is observed as the International Day of Older Persons across the globe.
- The United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution on December 14, 1990, to establish October 1 as the International Day of Older Persons. The day came into being after the Vienna International Plan of Action on Ageing initiative, which was adopted by the World Assembly on Ageing in 1982.
- The UN General Assembly in 1991 approved the United Nations Principles for Older Persons. Later in 2002, the Second World Assembly on Ageing embraced the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing. It was done to address and understand the opportunities and challenges faced by the older generation in the 21st century and to promote the development of a society for all ages.

**Que-1 With reference to Burkina Faso, consider the following statements about**

- 1- It is a landlocked country in West Africa.
- 2- It is bordered by Mali to the northwest, Niger to the northeast, Benin to the southeast, Togo and Ghana to the south, and the Ivory Coast to the southwest.
- 3- Previously called Republic of Upper Nile.

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 Seeking to expand its activities in different sectors to achieve the country's updated climate action targets, the government has decided to add three new 'missions' on**

- 1- Mountain ecosystem
- 2- Human health
- 3- Sustainable transport

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-3 With reference to Nobel Prizes for Physiology or medicine 2022, consider the following statements**

- 1- French scientist Svante Pääbo has been awarded the Nobel Prize for Physiology for the year 2022.
- 2- Awarded for discoveries concerning the genomes of extinct hominins and human evolution.
- 3- The prize money comes from a bequest left by the prize's creator, Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel, who died in 1895.

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-4 Consider the following statements about SASTRA Ramanujan Prize for 2022**

- 1- The award, instituted by the Shanmugha Arts, Science, Technology & Research Academy (SASTRA) in 2005.
- 2- The SASTRA Ramanujan Prize for 2022 will be awarded to Yunqing Tang.
- 3- Award carry a cash prize of \$10,000 and is presented annually to individuals aged 32 and above, who made outstanding contributions in the field of mathematics, influenced by Srinivasa Ramanujan in a broad sense.

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-5 Consider the following statements about Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramin) (PMGAY)**

1- Under the PMGAY scheme, financial assistance worth ₹1,00,000 in plain areas and ₹1,20,000 in difficult areas (high land area) is provided for construction of houses.

2- Launched by the Prime Minister in 2016 with the aim of constructing 2.95 crore houses.

3- Over 69% of houses constructed under the scheme are either wholly or jointly owned by women in rural areas.

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 With reference to Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY), consider the following statements**

1- This is a scheme set up by the Government of India (GoI) through MUDRA (a subsidiary of SIDBI).

2- This helps in facilitating micro credit upto Rs. 25 lakh to small business owners.

3- MUDRA supports Financial Intermediaries to extend loans to the non-corporate, non-farm sector income generating activities of micro and small entities with credit needs.

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-7 Consider the following statements about The Mediation Bill, 2021**

1- The Bill aims to promote, encourage, and facilitate mediation, especially institutional mediation, to resolve disputes, commercial and otherwise.

2- The Bill proposes mandatory mediation before litigation.

3- It safeguards the rights of litigants to approach competent adjudicatory forums/courts for urgent relief.

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-8 Consider the following statements about World Habitat Day**

1- It is observed on the first Monday of October.

2- World Habitat Day is celebrated worldwide every year to bring attention to the state of our towns and cities, as well as the basic right of all people to adequate shelter.

3- World Habitat Day 2022 is observed under the theme 'Shelter is my right'.

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

**ANSWER**

1- (a)

- Previously called Republic of Upper Volta.
- Previously called Republic of Upper Volta (1958–1984), it was renamed "Burkina Faso" on 4 August 1984 by President Thomas Sankara.
- The largest ethnic group in present-day Burkina Faso is that of the Mossi people, who settled the area in the 11th and 13th centuries.

2- (d)

- Seeking to expand its activities in different sectors to achieve the country's updated climate action targets, the government has decided to add three new 'missions' — on coastal ecosystem, human health and sustainable transport — to implement its existing National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC), taking the total number of such dedicated missions to 11.
- Three new missions aim to address the impact of climate change on coastal and marine ecosystems, human health and transport. Though India's NDC does not bind it to any sector-specific mitigation obligation or action, activities through dedicated missions would help us achieve our

goal to reduce overall emission intensity.

- Among three new missions, the environment ministry will be the nodal agency for the National Coastal Mission whereas the health ministry would look after the National Mission on Human Health and Climate Change, and the road transport & highways ministry will take care of the National Mission on Sustainable Transport for Climate Change.

3- (d)

- Swedish scientist Svante Pääbo has been awarded the Nobel Prize for Physiology for the year 2022.
- Last year's recipients were David Julius and Ardem Patapoutian for their discoveries into how the human body perceives temperature and touch.
- The prizes carry a cash award of 10 million Swedish kronor (nearly \$900,000) and will be handed out on December 10. The money comes from a bequest left by the prize's creator, Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel, who died in 1895.

4- (a)

- Award carry a cash prize of \$10,000 and is presented annually to individuals aged 32 and below, who made outstanding contributions in the

field of mathematics, influenced by Srinivasa Ramanujan in a broad sense.

- The SASTRA Ramanujan Prize for 2022 will be awarded to Yunqing Tang, Assistant Professor with the University of California, Berkeley, U.S.A.
- The prize will be awarded at the International Conference on Number Theory during December 20-22, 2022 at SASTRA University.

5- (d)

- Under the PMGAY scheme, financial assistance worth ₹120,000 in plain areas and ₹130,000 in difficult areas (high land area) is provided for construction of houses.

6- (b)

- This helps in facilitating micro credit upto Rs. 10 lakh to small business owners.

The interventions have been named 'SHISHU', 'KISHOR' and 'TARUN' to signify the stage of growth / development and funding needs of the beneficiary micro unit / entrepreneur.

- Shishu (Covering loans upto Rs. 50,000/-): This stage would cater to entrepreneurs who are either in their primitive stage or require lesser funds

in order to get their businesses started.

- Kishor (Covering loans upto Rs. 5,00,000/-): This section of entrepreneurs would belong to either those who have already started their business and want additional funds to mobilize their business.
- Tarun (Covering loans upto Rs. 10,00,000/-) : If an entrepreneur meets the required eligibility conditions, he/she could apply loan for upto Rs.10 lakhs. This would be the highest level of amount that an entrepreneur could apply for a startup loan.
- The lending rates are as per the RBI guidelines issued in this regard from time to time.

7- (c)

- The Bill aims to promote, encourage, and facilitate mediation, especially institutional mediation, to resolve disputes, commercial and otherwise.
- The Bill further proposes mandatory mediation before litigation. At the same time, it safeguards the rights of litigants to approach competent adjudicatory forums/courts for urgent relief. The mediation process will be confidential and immunity is provided against its disclosure in certain cases.

The outcome of the mediation process in the form of a Mediation Settlement Agreement (MSA) will be legally enforceable and can be registered with the State/district/taluk legal authorities within 90 days to ensure authenticated records of the settlement. The Bill establishes the Mediation Council of India and also provides for community mediation.

8- (a)

- World Habitat Day 2022 is observed under the theme “Mind the Gap. Leave No One and No Place Behind”.
- World Habitat Day was first celebrated in 1986 in Nairobi, Kenya, with the theme ‘Shelter is my right’. Today is a reminder to the world that we all have a role to play in shaping the future of our cities and towns.

**Que-1 With reference to National Disaster Management Authority, NDMA, consider the following statements**

- 1- An apex Body of Government of India, with a mandate to lay down policies for disaster management.
- 2- NDMA was established through the Disaster Management Act enacted by the Government of India on 23 December 2005.
- 3- It is headed by the Home Minister of India and can have up to nine other members.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-2 With reference to IMEI number, consider the following statements**

- 1- The IMEI is a unique number that is used to identify a device on a mobile network.
- 2- Phones with a dual-SIM option have only one IMEI number.
- 3- It has 15 digits and is like a phone's unique identity.

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 Consider the following statements about Jim Corbett National Park**

- 1- The Corbett park is first national park of India established in the year 1936 it was named Hailey National Park.
- 2- Located in the Dehradun district of Uttarakhand state.
- 3- The park was the first to come under the Project Tiger initiative.

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) 3 only

**Que-4 With reference to Nobel Prize in Physics, 2022, consider the following statements**

- 1- The award was given to Alain Aspect, John Clauser, and Anton Zeilinger.
- 2- Awarded for their work in quantum physics.

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

**Que-5 Consider the following statements about Quantum physics**

- 1- This field of Physics aims to explore the building blocks of nature around us at the minutest level.
- 2- Work around quantum physics began only recently.
- 3- This field of science could find answers to why things work the way they do, be it physics, chemistry, or biology.

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) 3 only       |

**Que-6 Consider the following statements about Pahari community of Jammu & Kashmir**

- 1- The Pahari community, a linguistic group mainly residing in the Zanskar valley.
- 2- Union Home Minister has recently announced Scheduled Tribe (ST) status for the Pahari community in Jammu and Kashmir.
- 3- Paharis also comprise both Hindus and Muslims unlike Bakerwals and Gujjars, two prominent nomadic clans.

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-7 With reference to Garba dance, consider the following statements**

- 1- Garba is a form of dance which originates from the state of Gujarat.
- 2- Garba dances celebrate fertility, honour womanhood, and pay respect to any of an array of mother goddesses.
- 3- In Gujarat the dances customarily mark a girl's first menstrual cycle and, later, her imminent marriage.

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-8 Consider the following statements about Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU)**

- 1- ABU was established in 1964 as a non-profit, non-governmental, non-political, professional association.
- 2- Headquartered at Manila, Philippines.
- 3- This promotes the collective interests of television and radio broadcasters as well as key industry players and also facilitate regional and international media cooperation for members.

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

## ANSWER

1- (a)

- It is headed by the Prime Minister of India and can have up to nine other members. Since 2020, there have been five other members. There is a provision to have a Vice Chair-person if needed.
- NDMA has a vision to "build a safer and disaster resilient India by a holistic, pro-active, technology-driven and sustainable development strategy that involves all stakeholders and fosters a culture of prevention, preparedness and mitigation".

2- (b)

- Phones with a dual-SIM option have two IMEI numbers, one for each SIM.
- The IMEI number can help network providers track down a device in case it gets stolen or is lost.
- Once such loss or theft is reported, the carriers can deny the device access to the cellular network even with a new SIM card.

3- (b)

- Located in the Nainital district of Uttarakhand state.
- The first national park in India, it was established in 1936 during the British Raj and named Hailey National Park after William Malcolm Hailey, a governor of the United Provinces in which it was then located. In 1956, nearly a decade after India's independence, it was renamed Corbett National Park after the hunter and naturalist Jim Corbett, who had played a leading role in its establishment and had died the year before.

4- (c)

- The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has recently announced the winners of the 2022 Nobel Prize in Physics. The top science award was given to Alain Aspect, John Clauser, and Anton Zeilinger for their work in quantum physics.
- The three newly awarded laureates experimented with entangled photons, establishing the violation of Bell inequalities and pioneered quantum information science.

5- (b)

- The India Space Research Organisation (Isro), in February this

year, demonstrated satellite-based quantum entanglement using real-time Quantum Key Distribution.

- Quantum communication is one of the safest ways of connecting two places with high levels of code and quantum cryptography that cannot be decrypted or broken by an external entity. If a hacker tries to crack the message in quantum communication, it changes its form in such a manner that would alert the sender and would cause the message to be altered or deleted.
- Work around quantum physics began as early as the 1800s with observations around atoms as physicists sat down to understand how they work at a fundamental level.

6- (d)

- The Pahari community, a linguistic group mainly residing in the Pir Panjal valley.
- Gujjars, Bakerwals and Paharis are non-Kashmiri speaking population of J&K. Paharis also comprise both Hindus and Muslims unlike Bakerwals and Gujjars, two prominent nomadic clans.

7- (c)

- Garba dancing also takes place during the nine-day Navratri festival, held

annually during the Hindu month of Ashvina (September–October). Although men may participate on some occasions, women are the typical performers of garba.

8- (b)

- ABU was established in 1964 as a non-profit, non-governmental, non-political, professional association with mandate to assist the development of broadcasting organisations in the region currently Headquartered at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. ABU promotes the collective interests of television and radio broadcasters as well as key industry players and also facilitate regional and international media cooperation for members. It has over 253 members in over 67 countries in Pacific region, Asia (South east, North, South, Central), Middle East, Europe, North Africa and North America, reaching a potential audience of about 2 billion people.
- Doordarshan (DD) & All India Radio (AIR) both are Full Members of ABU. All India Radio was a founding member of the ABU in the year 1964 while Doordarshan joined ABU in the year 1976.
- Global News Forum 2022 is the ABU's flagship three days annual NEWS event hosting around 80 foreign participants from the field of Media &

Journalism from different broadcasting organizations. Discussions are being held on various important broadcasting and journalism related issues prevailing across the globe in relevance to the theme of this year event i.e. "Truth and trust at times of crisis".

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**Que-1 With reference to Chola kingdom, consider the following statements**

- 1- The Chola kingdom stretched across present-day Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and parts of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.
- 2- During the period of the Cholas' rise and fall (around 9th to 12th century AD), other powerful dynasties of the region would also come and go, such as the Rashtrakutas of the Deccan who defeated the Cholas, and the Chalukyas of the Andhra Pradesh region whom the Cholas frequently battled.
- 3- The dynasty was founded by the king Rajendra Chola.

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 With reference to 'herSTART' platform, recently in News, consider the following statements**

- 1- An initiative of the Gujarat Government.
- 2- Aimed at supporting women-led startups.
- 3- This platform will boost innovation and start-up efforts of women entrepreneurs and also help them connect

with various government and private enterprises.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-3 With reference to India initiatives for International year of millets (IYOM)-2023, consider the following statements**

- 1- In 2018, the Indian government decided to mark the national year of millets.
- 2- In 2018, the government notified millets as nutri-cereals and included them under the POSHAN Mission Abhiyan.
- 3- With the support of the proposal from 72 other countries, India's initiative to promote millets was recognised and the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on 5 March 2022, declared the year 2023 as the international year of the millets.

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-4 With reference to Millets, consider the following statements**

1- Millets are cereal crops and small seed grasses, which are widely used in African and Asian countries.

2- Majorly cultivated in the evergreen tropical regions of Africa and Asia, around 97 percent of world's overall millet production happens in these regions.

3- India is known as the second largest diabetes capital of the world, and this has lead to the surge in the demand of millets.

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-5 The Ministry of Finance has increased the loan amount eligibility for the aviation sector under the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) to how much percentage of their fund based or non fund-based loan or Rs 1,500 crore, whichever is lower.**

- a) 25 per cent  
b) 50 per cent  
c) 75 per cent  
d) 100 per cent
- 

**Que-6 Consider the following statements about Nobel Prize in chemistry for 2022**

1- This is being awarded to Carolyn R. Bertozzi, Morten Meldal and K. Barry Sharpless.

2- For developing an ingenious tool for building molecule.

3- The prizes carry a cash award of 10 million Swedish kronor (nearly \$900,000).

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-7 With reference to Click chemistry, consider the following statements**

1- Click chemistry is a term that was coined by Carolyn R. Bertozzi in 2001.

2- To describe reactions that produce a high yield, wide in scope, create only by-products that can be removed without separation techniques such as chromatography, are simple to perform, and can be conducted in easily removable solvents.

3- Click chemistry is utilised in the development of pharmaceuticals, for mapping DNA and creating materials that are more fit for purpose.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-8 What are bioorthogonal reactions?**

1- It is a reaction taking place within a living system which does not interact or interfere with the native biochemistry of the system.

2- Some of the applications of Bertozzi's bioorthogonal reactions include targeted cancer treatments.

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- (a)

- The dynasty was founded by the king Vijaylaya.
- One of the biggest achievements of the Chola dynasty was its naval power, allowing them to go as far as Malaysia and the Sumatra islands of Indonesia in their conquests. Chandra writes the domination was such that the Bay of Bengal was converted into a "Chola lake" for some time.

2- (d)

- An initiative of the Gujarat University Startup and Entrepreneurship Council (GUSEC).
- The platform will include a digital platform to provide resources and training modules free of cost to aspiring women entrepreneurs, a digital community for them, and a digital publication to spread their success stories.
- India has moved from 81st position to 40th position in the Global Innovation Index (GII) of 2022 as a result of the startup program started across the country.

3- (a)

- With the support of the proposal from 72 other countries, India's initiative to promote millets was recognised and the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on 5 March 2021, declared the year 2023 as the international year of the millets.
- The department of agriculture and farmers welfare and the national agricultural cooperative marketing federation will collaborate in key areas like facilitating advisory support to manufacturers and processors of millet-based products to develop value-added millet-based commodities.
- These include on boarding of start-ups, inclusive of startups empanelled with Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR), formation of FPOs specifically for developing a range of millet-based products, promote and market millet-based products through the network of NAFED Bazaar stores, as well as the installation of millet based vending machines at various locations across Delhi-NCR.

4- (b)

- Millets are cereal crops and small seed grasses, which are widely used in African and Asian countries. Since ages, these small crops were used for

human consumption as well as a fodder for animals.

- Majorly cultivated in the semiarid tropical regions of Africa and Asia, around 97 percent of world's overall millet production happens in these regions.
- Since ages millets were commonly used to feed birds and animals, until the health benefits of these superfoods were known to the world. However, in various parts of India, millets were used for a variety of dishes. Especially, for their incredible nutrient rich composition.
- In fact, India is known as the second largest diabetes capital of the world, and this has lead to the surge in the demand of millets. Moreover, these gluten free millets can play a pivotal role in preventing and curing several health issues. Enriched with the goodness of nature, millets are a rich source of fiber, minerals like magnesium, phosphorous, iron, calcium, zinc and potassium.

5- (d)

- The eligible borrowers were previously permitted to avail up to 50 per cent of their highest total fund and non-fund based credit outstanding, subject to a maximum of Rs 400 crore per borrower.

6- (c)

- Professor Carolyn Bertozzi of Stanford University, has taken click chemistry to a new dimension and started utilising it in living organisms. Her bioorthogonal reactions take place without disrupting the normal chemistry of the cell.
- Barry Sharpless and Morten Meldal have laid the foundation for a functional form of chemistry – click chemistry – in which molecular building blocks snap together quickly and efficiently.
- Molecules are reacting all around us, constantly, in our drinks, on the tips of our fingers, in our phones. These reactions create new molecules, break down old ones, allow energy swaps — they shape the variegated dynamics of the universe. For scientists looking to understand these forces, combining molecules in a controlled way can be difficult, especially in a delicate environment like a living cell, because everything is so closely connected. Often the surrounding molecules are disturbed in the process, changing the very thing a researcher wants to study.

7- (d)

- Click chemistry is a term that was coined by K. Barry Sharpless in 2001.

8- (c)

- A bioorthogonal reaction is a reaction taking place within a living system which does not interact or interfere with the native biochemistry of the system. These reactions, which occur without disturbing the normal chemistry of the cell, have huge implications for biochemistry.
  - Some of the applications of Bertozzi's bioorthogonal reactions include targeted cancer treatments, among others.
-

**Que-1 The European Union (EU) has given final approval to online safety-focused legislation, which is an overhaul of the region's social media and e-commerce rules. Key features of the Digital Services Act?**

1- Social media companies will have to add "new procedures for faster removal" of content deemed illegal or harmful.

2- 'Very Large Online Platforms' (VLOPs) and 'Very Large Online Search Engines' (VLOSEs), that is platforms, having more than 45 million users in the EU, will have more stringent requirements.

3- Direct supervision by European Commission.

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-2 In February 2021, India had notified extensive changes to its social media regulations in the form of the Information Technology Rules, 2021 (IT Rules)**

1- This placed significant due diligence requirements on large social media platforms such as Meta and Twitter.

2- These included appointing key personnel to handle law enforcement requests and user grievances.

3- Enabling identification of the first originator of the information on its platform under all conditions.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-3 Consider the following statements about Sugar Season (Oct-Sep) 2021-22**

1- India emerges as the world's largest producer of sugar.

2- India emerges as the world's largest consumer of sugar.

3- India emerges as world's largest exporter of sugar.

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) 3 only
-

**Que-4 US-India Strategic Clean Energy Partnership (USISCEP) continues to advance energy security and innovation; scaling up emerging clean energy technologies; and deploying technical solutions through 5 pillars. Those pillars are**

- 1- Responsible Oil and Gas Pillar.
- 2- Emerging Fuels and technologies.
- 3- Renewable Energy Pillar.

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-5 What is Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)?**

- 1- Established in 1960 by founding members Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela.
- 2- With the addition of another 11 allied major oil-producing countries excluding Russia, the grouping is known as OPEC+.
- 3- They account for roughly 40 per cent of the world's crude oil and 80 per cent of the globe's oil reserves.

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-6 Consider the following statements about Carbon dots (CD)**

- 1- They are one of the youngest members of the carbon nanomaterial family.
- 2- They were discovered in 2004 and have an average diameter of less than 1 nanometres.
- 3- CDs possess remarkable optical properties, which differ peculiarly based on the precursor used for synthesis.

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) 3 only       |

**Que-7 Consider the following statements about Nobel Prize in Literature 2022**

- 1- The Nobel Prize in literature for the year 2022 was awarded to Annie Ernaux.
- 2- Given the award "for the courage and clinical acuity with which she uncovers the roots, estrangements and collective restraints of personal memory".
- 3- Awarded to a German author.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-8 Consider the following statements about Quality Council of India (QCI)**

1- This was set up as a public private partnership model on the model existing in Netherlands at the time.

2- The Council is independent and works under the directions of its Governing Body (GB) having equal representation of government, industry and industry associations.

3- It does not get funded by the government and is a self-sustaining non-profit organization with its own Memorandum of Association (MOA) and Rules.

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

**ANSWER**

- 1- (c)
- Faster removals and provisions to challenge: As part of the overhaul, social media companies will have to add “new procedures for faster removal” of content deemed illegal or harmful. They will also have to explain to users how their content takedown policy works. The DSA also allows for users to challenge takedown decisions taken by platforms and seek out-of-court settlements.
  - Bigger platforms have greater responsibility: One of the most crucial features of the legislation is that it avoids a one-size fits all approach and places increased accountability on the Big Tech companies. Under the DSA, ‘Very Large Online Platforms’ (VLOPs) and ‘Very Large Online Search Engines’ (VLOSEs), that is platforms, having more than 45 million users in the EU, will have more stringent requirements.
  - Direct supervision by European Commission: More importantly, these requirements and their enforcement will be centrally supervised by the European Commission itself — a key way to ensure that companies do not sidestep the legislation at the member-state level.



- More transparency on how algorithms work: VLOPs and VLOSEs will face transparency measures and scrutiny of how their algorithms work, and will be required to conduct systemic risk analysis and reduction to drive accountability about the societal impacts of their products. VLOPs must allow regulators to access their data to assess compliance and let researchers access their data to identify systemic risks of illegal or harmful content.
  - Clearer identifiers for ads and who's paying for them: Online platforms must ensure that users can easily identify advertisements and understand who presents or pays for the advertisement. They must not display personalised advertising directed towards minors or based on sensitive personal data, according to the DSA.
- 2- (a)
- These included appointing key personnel to handle law enforcement requests and user grievances, enabling identification of the first originator of the information on its platform under certain conditions, and deploying technology-based measures on a best-effort basis to identify certain types of content.
- 3- (a)
- India emerges as world's 2nd largest exporter of sugar.
- 4- (c)
- The partnership continues to advance energy security and innovation; scaling up emerging clean energy technologies; and deploying technical solutions through 5 pillars:
    - (i) Responsible Oil and Gas Pillar
    - (ii) Power and Energy Efficiency Pillar
    - (iii) Renewable Energy Pillar
    - (iv) Sustainable Growth Pillar
    - (v) Emerging Fuels and technologies.
- 5- (b)
- Established in 1960 by founding members Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela, OPEC has since expanded and now has 13 member states. With the addition of another 11 allied major oil-producing countries that include Russia, the grouping is known as OPEC+.
  - The objective of the organisation is to "coordinate and unify the petroleum policies of its Member Countries and ensure the stabilisation of oil markets in order to secure an efficient, economic and regular supply of

petroleum to consumers, a steady income to producers and a fair return on capital for those investing in the petroleum industry.

- Previously controlled by western-dominated multinational oil companies known as the “Seven Sisters,” OPEC sought to give the oil-producing nations greater influence over the global petroleum market. They account for roughly 40 per cent of the world’s crude oil and 80 per cent of the globe’s oil reserves, according to estimates from 2018. They usually meet every month to determine how much oil the member states will produce.

6- (b)

- CDs are one of the youngest members of the carbon nanomaterial family. They were discovered in 2004 and have an average diameter of less than 10 nanometres.
- The nanomaterials have garnered the attention of researchers mainly due to their convenient availability from both organic and inorganic materials. In addition, CDs have the potential to be used instead of quantum dots, which are more toxic and less biocompatible.
- The technology is produced from various raw materials leading to their

wide range of beneficial physicochemical characteristics. These are many surface functional groups, extremely small sizes, large surface areas, excellent water dispersibility and superior ability in charge transport.

- The surface functional groups in CDs contribute rich oxygen-containing moiety on their surface and are favourable for water solubility and further functionalisation for various applications.
- CDs possess remarkable optical properties, which differ peculiarly based on the precursor used for synthesis.
- The dots show continuous and broad absorption spectra, intense fluorescent activity, excellent photostability and highly tunable photoluminescence.
- Since they are good electron donors and acceptors, they are becoming more popular as candidates in applications like sensing and bioimaging. Moreover, CDs are inexpensive, highly biocompatible, and environment-friendly.

7- (a)

- Awarded to a French author.

- In 2021, Tanzanian-born UK based writer Abdulrazak Gurnah, whose work focuses on the impact of migration, had won the Nobel prize "for his uncompromising and compassionate penetration of the effects of colonialism and the fate of the refugee in the gulf between cultures and continents".
- In 2020, the award was given to US poet Louise Gluck. The Nobel literature prize was postponed in 2018 as sex abuse allegations naming the Nobel literature committee rocked the Swedish Academy.

8- (c)

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**Que-1 With reference to International Solar Alliance (ISA), consider the following statements**

1- ISA's mission is to unlock US\$ 1 trillion of investments in solar by 2030 while reducing the cost of the technology and its financing.

2- It's a first international intergovernmental organization to be headquartered in India.

3- Countries that do not fall within the Tropics can join the alliance and enjoy all benefits as other members, along with voting rights.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-2 With reference to ways to produce steel from iron through clean technologies, consider the following statements**

1- Carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS).

2- Replacing conventional sources of energy with low-carbon hydrogen.

3- Direct electrification through electrolysis of iron ore.

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-3 With reference to new World Bank report, titled "Poverty and Shared Prosperity 2022: Correcting Course", consider the following statements**

1- By 2015, the global extreme-poverty rate had been cut by more than half, but since then, poverty reduction has slowed in tandem with subdued global economic growth.

2- In 2020 alone, the number of people living below the extreme poverty line rose by over 70 million; the largest one-year increase since global poverty monitoring began in 1990.

3- Global median income declined by 20 per cent in 2020—the first decline since measurements of median income began in 1990.

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) 3 only

**Que-4 With reference to Lassa fever, consider the following statements**

- 1- A zoonotic disease endemic to parts of south Africa.
- 2- Lassa fever is caused by the Lassa virus, a member of the Arenaviridae family.
- 3- Humans usually become infected through direct contact or exposure to the excreta of infected Natal multimammate rat (*Mastomys natalensis*) rats.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-5 Consider the following statements about Committees of Parliament**

- 1- The Financial Committees include the Estimates Committee, Public Accounts Committee, and the Committee on Public Undertakings.
- 2- Seventeen Departmentally Related Standing Committees came into being in 1993, when Shivraj Patil was Speaker of Lok Sabha, to examine budgetary proposals and crucial government policies.
- 3- Ad hoc Committees are appointed for a specific purpose and cease to exist after they have completed the task assigned to them, and have submitted a report to the President.

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-6 Consider the following statements about Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC)**

- 1- Referred to as Digital Rupee (e₹), for specific use cases.
- 2- This is legal tender issued by a central bank in a digital form.
- 3- Retail CBDC (CBDC-R) would be potentially available for use by all — private sector, non-financial consumers and businesses while wholesale CBDC (CBDC-W) is designed for restricted access to select financial institutions.

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-7 Why a central-level law required to regulate online gaming?**

1- Online gaming so far has been a concurrent subject, but state governments have said they find it extremely difficult to enforce certain rules like geo-blocking certain apps or websites within the territory of their state.

2- There is a concern that rules passed in one state are not applicable in another, which has caused inconsistency in how the online gaming industry is regulated in the country.

3- State governments also do not have enough blocking powers like the Centre to issue blocking orders for offshore betting sites.

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 An inter-ministerial task force, set up by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) to propose contours of a national-level legislation to regulate online gaming, has proposed**

1- The creation of a central regulatory body for the sector.

2- Clearly defining what games of skill and chance are.

3- Bringing online gaming under the purview of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002.

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

**ANSWER**

1- (a)

- The ISA is headquartered in Gurugram, Haryana, India.
- This initiative was first proposed by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in a speech in November 2015 at Wembley Stadium (London HA9 0WS, United Kingdom), in which he referred to sunshine countries as Suryaputra ("Sons of the Sun"). The alliance is a treaty-based inter-governmental organization. Countries that do not fall within the Tropics can join the alliance and enjoy all benefits as other members, with the exception of voting rights.

2- (c)

- Green steel is the manufacturing of steel without the use of fossil fuels. This new phenomenon is about producing steel by using low-carbon energy sources such as hydrogen, coal

gasification, or electricity instead of the traditional carbon-intensive manufacturing route of coal-fired plants.

3- (a)

- The world is unlikely to meet the goal of ending extreme poverty by 2030 absent history-defying rates of economic growth over the remainder of this decade.
- The report states that global poverty reduction has been slowing down since 2015 but the Covid pandemic and the war in Ukraine have completely reversed the outcomes.
- Global median income declined by 4 per cent in 2020—the first decline since measurements of median income began in 1990.
- Developing economies had fewer resources and therefore spent less and achieved less: upper-middle-income economies offset just 50 per cent of the poverty impact, and low- and lower-middle income economies offset barely a quarter of the impact.
- The World Bank has three specific suggestions when it comes to fiscal policy.

1: Choose targeted cash transfers instead of broad subsidies.

2: Prioritize public spending for long-term growth.

3: Mobilize tax revenues without hurting the poor.

4- (d)

- Climate change will aid the spread of Lassa fever, a zoonotic disease endemic to parts of west Africa, to the central and eastern parts of the continent in the next 50 years, a recently published study has found.
- An estimated 80 per cent of infections are mild or asymptomatic. But the remaining 20 per cent can cause haemorrhaging from the mouth and gut, low blood pressure and potential permanent hearing loss.
- The fatality rate for hospitalised patients is generally high and can reach 80 per cent at times. There is currently no vaccine approved to prevent the disease. Lassa fever is currently reported mostly from Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria and Sierra Leone, all of which are in west Africa.

5- (a)

- Broadly, Parliamentary Committees can be classified into Financial Committees, Departmentally Related Standing Committees, Other Parliamentary Standing Committees, and Ad hoc Committees.

- The Financial Committees include the Estimates Committee, Public Accounts Committee, and the Committee on Public Undertakings. These committees were constituted in 1950.
  - Seventeen Departmentally Related Standing Committees came into being in 1993, when Shivraj Patil was Speaker of Lok Sabha, to examine budgetary proposals and crucial government policies. The aim was to increase Parliamentary scrutiny, and to give members more time and a wider role in examining important legislation.
  - The number of Committees was subsequently increased to 24. Each of these Committees has 31 members — 21 from Lok Sabha and 10 from Rajya Sabha.
  - Ad hoc Committees are appointed for a specific purpose. They cease to exist after they have completed the task assigned to them, and have submitted a report to the House. The principal Ad hoc Committees are the Select and Joint Committees on Bills. Committees like the Railway Convention Committee, Committee on Food Management and Security in Parliament House Complex, etc. also come under the category of Ad hoc Committees.
- 6- (c)
- The central bank observed that its approach to CBDC is governed by two basic considerations – to create a digital Rupee that is as close as possible to a paper currency and to manage the process of introducing digital Rupee in a seamless manner.
  - Retail CBDC (CBDC-R) would be potentially available for use by all — private sector, non-financial consumers and businesses while wholesale CBDC (CBDC-W) is designed for restricted access to select financial institutions.
  - While CBDC-W is intended for the settlement of interbank transfers and related wholesale transactions, CBDC-R is an electronic version of cash primarily meant for retail transactions.
  - RBI said a token-based CBDC (which is a bearer instrument like banknotes, meaning whosoever holds the tokens at a given point in time would be presumed to own them) is viewed as a preferred mode for CBDC-R as it would be closer to physical cash.
  - Account-based CBDC (which requires maintenance of record of balances and transactions of all holders of the CBDC and indicate the ownership of



the monetary balances) may be considered for CBDC-W.

7- (d)

- Online gaming so far has been a state subject, but state governments have said they find it extremely difficult to enforce certain rules like geo-blocking certain apps or websites within the territory of their state.

8- (c)

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**Que-1 With reference to Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), consider the following statements**

1- The Iran nuclear agreement, formally known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), is a landmark accord reached between Iran and United States, in July 2015.

2- Under its terms, Iran agreed to dismantle much of its nuclear program and open its facilities to more extensive international inspections in exchange for billions of dollars' worth of sanctions relief.

3- The JCPOA imposes restrictions on Iran's civilian nuclear enrichment program.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-2 With reference to a "committee of experts on sustainable finance" constituted by International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA), recently submitted its recommendation, consider the following statements**

1- Headed by CK Mishra.

2- The main focus of the committee was to align the IFSC regulations with the international best practices.

3- Developing a voluntary carbon market, a framework for transition bonds and creation of global alliances were some of the important recommendations made by a committee.

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 Consider the following statements about Nobel Peace Prize 2022**

1- The 2022 Nobel Peace Prize has been jointly awarded to Belarusian human rights advocate Ales Bialiatski, the French human rights organisation Memorial, and the Ukrainian human rights organisation Centre for Civil Liberties.

2- Mr. Bialiatski is a champion of human rights in Belarus and has dedicated his life to the cause of democracy in his country.

3- Ukrainian human rights organisation Centre for Civil Liberties was founded in Kyiv in 2007 with the goal of transforming the country into a full democracy.

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-4 Consider the following statements about Indian Air Force Day**

- 1- Indian Air Force Day is observed every year on October 8.
- 2- On this day, the Air Force in India was officially raised as an air support force for the Royal Air Force in the United Kingdom.
- 3- India's air force ranks as the third largest air force in the world.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-5 With reference to Memorandum of Procedure (MoP), consider the following statements**

- 1- The MoP is the playbook agreed upon by the government and the judiciary on the appointment of judges.
- 2- The MoP has evolved as the standard based on only decision of the Supreme Court, known as the First Judges Case (1981).
- 3- It is a crucial document — because the Collegium system of appointing judges is a judicial innovation that is not mandated through legislation or text of the Constitution.

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-6 Consider the following statements about Credit Guarantee Scheme for Startups (CGSS)**

- 1- Announced by The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).
- 2- It said that maximum guarantee cover per borrower shall not exceed Rs 100 crore and the credit facility being covered here should not have been covered under any other guarantee scheme.
- 3- Approved for the purpose of providing credit guarantees to loans extended by member institutions (MIs) to finance eligible borrowers being startups.

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) 3 only       |
-

**Que-7 Consider the following statements about National Health Accounts (NHA)**

1- It is a process through which countries monitor the flow of money in their health sector.

2- The NHA estimates are prepared by using an accounting framework based on the internationally accepted standard of System of Health Accounts, 2011, developed by the World Bank.

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
- 

**Que-8 In a first-of-its-kind initiative, the Department of Science & Technology (DST) has recently announced the setting up of India's first Dark Sky Reserve in**

- a) Jammu & Kashmir  
b) Sikkim  
c) Arunachal Pradesh  
d) Ladakh
- 

**ANSWER**

- 1- (d)
- Commonly known as the Iran nuclear deal or Iran deal, is an agreement on the Iranian nuclear program reached in Vienna on 14 July 2015, between Iran and the P5+1 (the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council—China, France, Russia, United Kingdom, United States—plus Germany) together with the European Union.
- 2- (c)
- It explored ways in which capital flows through IFSC can be enhanced and support development of innovative financial products in the area of green and sustainable finance.
  - Some important recommendations include developing a voluntary carbon market, framework for transition bonds, enabling de-risking mechanisms, promoting regulatory sandbox for green fintech and facilitating the creation of a global climate alliance.
  - Considering the significance of the MSME sector in the economic development of the country, the committee also proposed setting up of a dedicated MSME platform for sustainable lending.

- It also recommended to facilitate the use of innovative instruments such as catastrophe bonds, municipal bonds, green securitisation, blended finance among other.

3- (d)

- The 2022 Nobel Peace Prize has been jointly awarded to Belarusian human rights advocate Ales Bialiatski, the Russian human rights organisation Memorial, and the Ukrainian human rights organisation Centre for Civil Liberties.
- Belarusian activist Ales Bialiatski is the founder of Viasna, a human rights centre in the country, named for the Belarusian word for 'spring.' . Mr. Bialiatski created Viasna in 1996 when a wave of democratic opposition takeover Belarus.

4- (a)

- The Indian Air Force is also known as "Bhartiya Vayu Sena". This year, India celebrates the 90th Indian Air Force Day. India's Air Force (IAF) has taken part in several wars since independence, including four wars with Pakistan and one with China. The Indian Air Force aids the country during natural calamities in addition to safeguarding Indian territory and national interests from all threats. Thus, we celebrate this day to

recognize and honour the Indian Airforces selfless efforts.

- India's air force ranks as the fourth largest air force in the world. The Hindon Air Force Station in Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh is the largest airbase in entire Asia. It is also the 8th largest in the world.
- The Indian Air Force was established in the country on October 8, 1932, by the British Empire. The first operational squadron was formed in April 1933. After its participation in World War II, the British Empire gave the Air Force in India the prefix Royal, and the Air Force in India came to be known as the Royal Indian Air Force.

5- (b)

- The MoP is the playbook agreed upon by the government and the judiciary on the appointment of judges. It is a crucial document — because the Collegium system of appointing judges is a judicial innovation that is not mandated through legislation or text of the Constitution.
- The MoP has evolved as the standard based on three decisions of the Supreme Court, known as the First Judges Case (1981), Second Judges Case (1993) and the Third Judges Case (1998). These three judgments form

the basis of a peer selection process for the appointment of judges.

- The MoP was first drawn up in 1999. It was re-negotiated in 2016 following the Supreme Court's decision to strike down, in 2015, the constitutional amendment that brought in the National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) that sought to change the system of appointments and give the government a foot in the door.

6- (b)

- It said that maximum guarantee cover per borrower shall not exceed Rs 10 crore and the credit facility being covered here should not have been covered under any other guarantee scheme.
- The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has notified credit guarantee scheme for startups for providing collateral-free loans. Loan/debt facilities sanctioned to an eligible borrower on or after October 6, would be eligible for coverage under the scheme, according to the notification.
- MIs include financial intermediaries (banks, financial institutions, NBFCs, AIFs) engaged in lending/investing and conforming to the eligibility criteria approved under the scheme.

- The government will setup a trust or fund to guarantee payment against default in loans or debt extended to eligible borrowers, managed by the Board of National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Ltd as the Trustee of the Fund. The department will setup a management committee to oversee the affairs of the trust.

7- (b)

- The NHA estimates are prepared by using an accounting framework based on the internationally accepted standard of System of Health Accounts, 2011, developed by the World Health Organization (WHO).

8- (d)

- In a first-of-its-kind initiative, the Department of Science & Technology (DST) has announced the setting up of India's first Dark Sky Reserve in Hanle, Ladakh in the next three months.
- Hanle, which is about 4,500 metres above sea level, hosts telescopes and is regarded as one of the world's most optimal sites for astronomical observations.
- A Dark Sky Reserve is a designation given to a place that has policies in place to ensure that a tract of land or region has minimal artificial light interference. The International Dark

Sky Association is a U.S.-based non-profit that designates places as International Dark Sky Places, Parks, Sanctuaries and Reserves, depending on the criteria they meet. Several such reserves exist around the world but none so far in India.

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**Que-1 Globally, there is no single EV standard, Japan, China, countries in Europe and North America have safety standards that promote different norms in four key areas:**

- 1- Charging connectors.
- 2- Charging topology.
- 3- Charging-related communications.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-2 Consider the following statements about third Global Artificial Intelligence Summit & Awards, recently held**

- 1- The third AI Summit has been organised by Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC).
- 2- It is focusing on the areas of defence, healthcare, agriculture, smartcities, mobility and education in partnership with the government.
- 3- The aim is to develop a roadmap on how to use AI ecosystem and startups for the benefit of society.

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-3 What is a super app?**

1- This has been described as the Swiss army knife of mobile apps, offering a suite of services for users such as messaging, social networking, peer-to-peer payments and e-commerce shopping.

2- These mega apps are widely used in Asia because mobile is the main form of access to the internet for many people in the region.

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

**Que-4 Consider the following statements about Purpose of the Foreign Exchange Reserve**

- 1- To ensure that RBI has backup funds if their national currency rapidly devalues or becomes altogether insolvent.
- 2- Its helps in GDP growth.
- 3- A good forex reserve helps in attracting foreign trade and earns a good reputation in trading partners.

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-5 Prime minister had recently declared Indias first village to become a net renewable energy generator, which is**

- a) Hanle  
b) Vadgaon  
c) Modhera  
d) None of the Above

**Que-6 The central government has recently approved the creation of a weapon system branch for the officers of the Indian Air Force. Consider the following statements about this**

- 1- This is the first time since Independence that a new operational branch is being created.  
2- Creation of this branch would result in savings of more than Rs 34,000 crore due to reduced expenditure on flying training.

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

**Que-7 Consider the following statements about Jammu and Kashmir's nomadic community, known as Bakerwals**

- 1- They are goat herders and shepherds at large.  
2- Seasonally migrate from one place to another with their herds.  
3- They are found only in the Kashmir region.

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-8 With reference to Rosetta Stone, consider the following statements**

- 1- The Rosetta stone is a large stone slab with inscriptions on it and is believed to be a piece of a bigger rock.  
2- It has inscriptions in three scripts, all of which convey a decree or public message.  
3- Rosetta Stone stands out for being the discovery that helped develop the specific field of ancient Egypt studies, Egyptology.

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

**ANSWER**

1- (c)

- Globally, there is no single EV standard. Japan, China, countries in Europe and North America have safety standards that promote different norms in four key areas: safety, charging connectors, charging topology and charging-related communications.
- India is set to broadly follow the same philosophy for its testing standards — updating them as tech evolves.

2- (d)

- The third AI Summit has been organised by AICRA-All India Council for Robotics & Automation.

3- (c)

4- (b)

Purpose of the Foreign Exchange Reserve:

1. The most significant objective behind this is to ensure that RBI has backup funds if their national currency rapidly devalues or becomes altogether insolvent.
2. If the value of the Rupee decreases due to an increase in demand of the foreign currency then RBI sells the dollar in the Indian money market so that depreciation of the Indian currency can be checked.

3. A country with a good stock of forex has a good image at the international level because the trading countries can be sure about their payments.

4. A good forex reserve helps in attracting foreign trade and earns a good reputation in trading partners.

5- (c)

- The central and Gujarat government initiated the solarisation of Modhera Sun Temple and town to provide round-the-clock solar energy through a solar power project integrated with Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) at Sujjanpura in Mehsana, nearly 6 km away from the Sun Temple.
- The Gujarat government had allotted 12 hectares of land for the development of this project.
- An amount of Rs 80.66 crore was spent on a 50:50 basis by both the state and central government in two phases. The first phase constituted Rs 69 crore, and the second phase, Rs 11.66 crore.

6- (a)

- Creation of this branch would result in savings of more than Rs 3,400 crore due to reduced expenditure on flying training.

- The new branch will essentially man the specialised streams of surface- to-surface missiles, surface-to-air missiles, remotely piloted aircraft, and weapon system operators in twin and multi-crew aircraft.

7- (a)

- As a nomadic tribe they spread over a large part starting from Pir Panjal Range to Hindukush to Ladakh located in Himalayan mountains of South Asia.
- They are found in the entire Kashmir region between India and Pakistan, and in the Nuristan Province of northeast Afghanistan.

8- (c)

- The Rosetta Stone is a large stone slab with inscriptions on it and is believed to be a piece of a bigger rock. It has inscriptions in three scripts, all of which convey a decree or public message. This is similar to how in Ancient India, King Ashoka ordered stambhas or edicts that had messages of Buddha's teachings and news about victory in a war inscribed. These were then placed throughout the kingdom for the public to see.
- The Rosetta Stone stands out for being the discovery that helped develop the specific field of ancient Egypt studies, Egyptology. Before it

was found, there was no knowledge of what Egyptian hieroglyphs meant and how they were translated. But as the stone conveyed the same information in three languages, including Ancient Greek that was understood by scholars, information on hieroglyphics was finally within the grasp of modern historians.

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**Que-1 With reference to Nobel Prize 2022 for Economics, consider the following statements**

- 1- This has been awarded to three US-based economists Ben S. Bernanke, Douglas W. Diamond and Philip H. Dybvig.
- 2- For research on Unemployment and its effects.
- 3- The economics award wasn't established in Alfred Nobel's will of 1895 but by the Swedish central bank in his memory.

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) 3 only

**Que-2 Consider the following statements about India's Forex reserve**

- 1- The largest component is foreign currency assets — it constitutes about 80% of the total portfolio.
- 2- This also consist of investment in gold, and special drawing rights from the IMF.
- 3- RBI Act and the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 govern the foreign exchange reserves.

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-3 With reference to International Girl Child Day, consider the following statements**

- 1- The UN General Assembly designated October 13 as the International Day of the Girl Child.
- 2- The subject or theme of the International Day of the Girl Child for 2022 is "Our time is now—our rights, our future."
- 3- The purpose of recognizing this International Day is primarily to increase public awareness of the problems that girls worldwide suffer, including lack of access to education, inadequate nutrition, forced child marriage, legal rights, and medical rights.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-4 Consider the following statements about World Mental Health Day**

- 1- World Mental Health Day is observed every year on October 10 around the world.
- 2- Aim of raising awareness about mental health issues and mobilising efforts in support of mental health.
- 3- The theme for World Mental Health Day 2022, is Make mental health for all a Nation's priority.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-5 Consider the following statements about Forests**

- 1- Forests cover 25 per cent of the world's land surface.
- 2- About 60 per cent of all vascular plants occur in tropical forests.
- 3- The world's forests provide habitats for about 80 per cent of amphibian species, 75 per cent of bird species and 68 per cent of mammal species.

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 factors responsible for loss of biodiversity**

- 1- Deforestation is the greatest driver of the loss of valuable biodiversity, with around 10 million hectares lost to deforestation each year, mainly for agricultural expansion.
- 2- Invasive species.
- 3- Over-harvesting of timber.

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-7 Consider the following statements about Graded Response Action Plan, or GRAP**

- 1- To deal with the multi-faceted risks linked to air pollution.
- 2- Its a list of measures the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) submitted to the President of India in January 2016.
- 3- The Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority (EPCA) was the designated agency to implement the plan.

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) 3 only

## ANSWER

**Que-8 Consider the following statements about Joint Anti-Terror Exercise (JATE) 'Manesar Anti-terror 2022'**

1- The Indian Army is hosting the multinational JATE "Manesar Anti-Terror 2022".

2- Held under the framework of the SCO Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS).

3- JATE is an annual counter-terrorist exercise.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

1- (b)

- The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has decided to award the 2022 Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel to Ben S. Bernanke, Douglas W. Diamond and Philip H. Dybvig "for research on banks and financial crises."
- The work for which Ben Bernanke, Douglas Diamond and Philip Dybvig are being recognised has been crucial to subsequent research that has enhanced our understanding of banks, bank regulation, banking crises and how financial crises should be managed.
- Ben Bernanke analysed the Great Depression of the 1930s, the worst economic crisis in modern history. Among other things, he showed how bank runs were a decisive factor in the crisis becoming so deep and prolonged. Using historical sources and statistical methods, Bernanke's analysis showed which factors were important in the drop in gross domestic product. He found factors that were directly linked to failing banks accounted for the lion's share of the downturn.

- The 2022 economic sciences laureates Douglas Diamond and Philip Dybvig developed theoretical models that explain why banks exist, how their role in society makes them vulnerable to rumours about their impending collapse and how society can lessen this vulnerability.
- Diamond and Dybvig presented a solution to bank vulnerability, in the form of deposit insurance from the government. When depositors know that the state has guaranteed their money, they no longer need to rush to the bank as soon as rumours start about a bank run.
- Diamond also showed how banks perform a societally important function. As intermediaries between savers and borrowers, banks are better suited to assessing borrowers' creditworthiness and ensuring that loans are used for good investments.

2- (c)

- RBI Act and the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 govern the foreign exchange reserves. It can be broken into four categories. The first and largest component is foreign currency assets — it constitutes about 80% of the total portfolio. India invests heavily in US treasury bills and about 75% of the country's foreign

currency assets are invested in dollar denominated securities.

- Then comes the investment in gold, and special drawing rights from the IMF. And the last is the Reserve Tranche Position.
- So, what is the purpose of the foreign exchange reserves? First, to ensure that the RBI has backup funds if the rupee rapidly devalues or becomes altogether insolvent. Second, if the value of the rupee decreases due to an increase in demand for foreign currency, then the RBI can and does sell the dollar in the Indian money market so that rupee depreciation can be checked. Third, a good stock of forex establishes a good image for the country at the international level as trading countries can be sure about their payments, thus helping in attracting foreign trade.

3- (d)

- The UN General Assembly adopted resolution 66/170 on December 19, 2011 and designated October 11 as the International Day of the Girl Child.
- The purpose of recognizing this International Day is primarily to increase public awareness of the problems that girls worldwide suffer, including lack of access to education, inadequate nutrition, forced child

marriage, legal rights, and medical rights.

4- (a)

- The theme for World Mental Health Day 2022, is Make mental health for all a global priority.

5- (d)

- Forests cover 31 per cent of the world's land surface, store an estimated 296 gigatonnes of carbon and are home to most of the world's terrestrial biodiversity.
- The world's forests provide habitats for about 80 per cent of amphibian species, 75 per cent of bird species and 68 per cent of mammal species. In addition, about 60 per cent of all vascular plants occur in tropical forests.

6- (c)

- Deforestation is the greatest driver of the loss of valuable biodiversity, with around 10 million hectares lost to deforestation each year, mainly for agricultural expansion. Other threats include over-harvesting of timber, invasive species, climate change, desertification and forest fires.
- FAO's forestry statutory body, Committee on Forestry (COFO), had asked FAO to review biodiversity

mainstreaming in forestry in its 25th session in 2020. It had asked the UN body to share good practices on solutions that balance conservation and sustainable use of forest biodiversity.

The report recommended various measures and actions that governments and development partners can take to facilitate the mainstreaming of biodiversity in forest management:

- Halting and reversing deforestation
- Combating illegal and unregulated forest activities
- Recognising the forest tenure of Indigenous Peoples and local communities
- Preventing the conversion of natural forests into monospecific forest plantations
- Ensuring the sustainable management of harvested species
- Managing and controlling invasive and overabundant species
- Leveraging global momentum on restoration to enhance biodiversity conservation
- Adopting a multisectoral perspective
- Providing economic incentives



- Facilitating market-based instruments
- Investing in knowledge and capacity development

7- (b)

- To deal with the multi-faceted risks linked to air pollution, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) submitted a list of measures to address different levels of air pollution to the Supreme Court in January 2016. These measures coalesced into a Graded Response Action Plan — a set of anti-air pollution measures followed in Delhi and its vicinity according to the severity of the situation.
- The GRAP was approved by the SC after modifications and notified by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change on January 12, 2017, for the “prevention, control and abatement” of air pollution in Delhi-NCR. The Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority (EPCA) was the designated agency to implement the plan.

8- (d)

- The National Security Guard (NSG) is hosting the multinational JATE “Manesar Anti-Terror 2022”.
- The exercise is aimed at exchanging expertise and best practices, and build

synergy between the Counter Terrorism Forces of the SCO RATS member countries to enhance capabilities for conducting anti-terrorist operations and countering other security threats collectively.

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**Que-1 With reference to 'Beti Bachao Beti Pado' scheme, consider the following statements**

- 1- Recently, included skilling of girls in non-traditional livelihood (NTL).
- 2- The scheme will now also focus on increasing the enrolment of girls in secondary education, particularly in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) subjects.
- 3- It aims to address the issue of the declining child sex ratio image (CSR) and is a national initiative jointly run by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and the Ministry of Education.

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 Ujjain**

- 1- The city of Ujjain was also one of the primary centres of learning for Hindu scriptures, called Ajanta in the 6th and 7th centuries BC.
- 2- Astronomers and mathematicians such as Brahmagupta and Bhaskaracharya made Ujjain their home.

- 3- Ujjain is geographically situated at a spot where the zero meridian of longitude and the Tropic of Cancer intersect.

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-3 Consider the following statements about Indian Foreign Service Day (IFS)**

- 1- IFS Day is celebrated on 9 October every year.
- 2- On this day in 1947, the Indian government established the Indian Foreign Service for India's diplomatic, consular and commercial representation overseas.
- 3- The origin of the Indian Foreign Service can be traced back to British rule when the Foreign Department was created to conduct business with the "Foreign European Powers".

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) 3 only       |

**Que-4 Consider the following statements about National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (NICDC)**

- 1- It is an autonomous body.
- 2- Under the administrative control of Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in India.
- 3- This is responsible for preparation of master plans, feasibility reports and detailed project reports of 11 Industrial Corridors in India.

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-5 Consider the following statements about B20 Indonesia Global Dialogue**

- 1- Business 20 (B20), formed in 2010.
- 2- B20 aims to deliver concrete actionable policy recommendations on the priorities by each rotating presidency to spur economic growth and development.
- 3- It is the official United Nations dialogue forum with the global business community.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

- a) 1 and 2 only      b) 1 only

- c) 1, 2 and 3      d) 2 and 3 only

**Que-6 With reference to Indian space economy, as per a joint report prepared by EY (Ernst and Young) and the Indian Space Association (ISpA), consider the following statements**

- 1- Indian space economy is set to reach \$50 billion by 2030.
- 2- The space launch segment would grow fastest at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 13% spurred by growing private participation, latest technology adoption and low cost of launch services.
- 3- Satellite services and application segment would form the largest share of the space economy accounting for 36% of the space economy by 2025.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-7 The Second United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress (UNWGIC 2022) recently began in**

- a) New Delhi
- b) Pune
- c) Mumbai
- d) Hyderabad

**Que-8 With reference to National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG), consider the following statements**

1- The National Centre for Good Governance was set up in 2014 by the Government of India as an apex institution in the country.

2- It focuses on good governance, policy reforms, training and capacity building, and to also work as a think tank.

3- It has imparted training to civil servants of 15 countries.

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

## ANSWER

1- (a)

- It aims to address the issue of the declining child sex ratio image (CSR) and is a national initiative jointly run by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the Ministry of Education.
- A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Ministries of Women and Child Development, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, and Minority Affairs. It emphasises convergence between Ministries and Departments to ensure adolescents complete their education, build skills, and enter the workforce in a diverse range of professions, including in STEM fields.

**The objectives of the Scheme are as under:**

- To prevent gender biased sex selective elimination
- To ensure survival and protection of the girl child
- To ensure education and participation of the girl child
- To increase girl's participation in the fields of sports

2- (d)

- The city of Ujjain was also one of the primary centres of learning for Hindu scriptures, called Avantika in the 6th and 7th centuries BC.
- There are 12 jyotirlinga sites in India, considered a manifestation of Shiva. Besides Mahakal, these include Somnath and Nageshwar in Gujarat, Mallikarjuna in Andhra Pradesh, Omkareshwar in Madhya Pradesh, Kedarnath in Uttarakhand, Bhimashankar, Triyambakeshwar and Grishneshwar in Maharashtra, Viswanath at Varanasi, Baidyanath in Jharkhand, and Rameshwar in Tamil Nadu.
- Mahakal is the only jyotirlinga facing the south, while all the other jyotirlingas face east.

3- (b)

- On 9 October 1946, the Indian government established the Indian Foreign Service for India's diplomatic, consular and commercial representation overseas. With independence, there was a near-complete transition of the Foreign and Political Department into what then became the new Ministry of External Affairs.
- According to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), the origin of the Indian

Foreign Service can be traced back to British rule when the Foreign Department was created to conduct business with the "Foreign European Powers".

- In 1947, there was a near seamless transformation of the Foreign and Political department of the British India government into what then became the new Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations and in 1948 the first batch recruited under the combined Civil service examination system of the Union Public Service Commission joined the service.

4- (c)

5- (a)

- It is the official G20 dialogue forum with the global business community.
- G 20 is a group of 19 Countries + EU, together representing around 85% of global GDP, 75% of global trade, and 60% of the world's population. The members of the G20 are: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, and the European Union. Indonesia is currently holding the Presidency of G20.

6- (d)

- Indian space economy is set to reach \$13 billion by 2025.
- By 2025, satellite manufacturing would be the second fastest-growing segment in the Indian space economy. Space parks that are coming up across the country would give a fillip to companies operating across the space value chain, especially manufacturing.

7- (d)

- The five-day conference is being hosted by the Department of Science & Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology and convened by the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management.
- With the theme of 'Geo-Enabling the Global Village: No one should be left behind,' the Second UNWGIC 2022 will reflect on the importance of integrated geospatial information infrastructure and knowledge services to support the implementation and monitoring of sustainable development goals. It will also mirror the well-being of society, address environmental and climate challenges, embrace digital transformation and technological development, and catalyze a vibrant economy.

- The United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) organizes the United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress (UNWGIC) every four years with the objectives of enhancing international collaboration among the Member States and relevant stakeholders in Geospatial information management and capacities. The first UNWGIC was organized by China in October 2018.

8- (c)

- The National Centre for Good Governance was set up in 2014 by the Government of India as an apex institution in the country. It focuses on good governance, policy reforms, training and capacity building, and to also work as a think tank. It has taken up capacity building of civil servants of several foreign countries in partnership with MEA. It has imparted training to civil servants of 15 countries such as Bangladesh, Kenya, Tanzania, Tunisia, Seychelles, Gambia, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Laos, Vietnam, Bhutan, Myanmar and Cambodia.
- The Capacity Building programme for civil servants of developing countries aims at equipping them with cutting edge knowledge, skills and tools to deliver and design effective public

policy in an increasingly complex and inter-dependent world. It is expected that this will achieve good governance and ultimately sustainable development apart from providing rich cross-country experience so that there is no need to reinvent the wheel. The Centre is sharing the initiatives being taken in the country such as e-governance, digital India, universalisation of public services, approach to sustainable development goals, usage of Aadhar in service delivery, public grievance redressal mechanism and disaster management with special reference to coastal region among other important areas.

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**Que-1 With reference to Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia (CICA), consider the following statements**

1- It is an inter-governmental forum for enhancing cooperation towards promoting peace, security and stability in Asia.

2- The key idea of the Conference is based on the priority of the indivisibility of security, joint initiative and mutually beneficial interaction of small and large states.

3- It was founded by the first President of the Republic of Tajikistan Elbasy Nursultan Nazarbayev, on 5 October 1992, at the 47th Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-2 Consider the following statements about Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2005**

1- Under the RTI law, information commissions are the final appellate authority and are mandated to safeguard and facilitate people's fundamental right to information.

2- Right to Information is included as a Fundamental Right in the Constitution of India.

3- It covers all the constitutional authorities, including executive, legislature and judiciary; any institution or body established or constituted by an act of Parliament or a state legislature.

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) 3 only
- 

**Que-3 With reference to Living Planet Report by World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), released recently, consider the following statements**

1- There has been a 69 per cent decline in the wildlife populations of mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles and fish, across the globe in the last 50 years.

2- Biodiversity loss and climate crisis should be dealt with as one instead of two different issues as they are intertwined.

3- The highest decline (94 per cent) was in the Asia Pacific region.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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



**Que-4 As per logistics performance index 2022, recently released, consider the following statements**

1- The index is an indicator of the efficiency of logistical services necessary for promoting exports and economic growth.

2- The index aims at enhancing the focus on improving logistics performance across states which is essential for improving the country's trade and reducing transaction cost.

3- The first logistics report was released in 2018.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-5 Consider the following statements about Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Next-Gen Launch Vehicle (NGLV)**

1- NGLV will feature semi-cryogenic propulsion (refined kerosene as fuel with liquid oxygen (LOX) as oxidiser) for the booster stages which is cheaper and efficient.

2- Potential uses will be in the areas of launching communication satellites, deep space missions, future human spaceflight and cargo missions.

3- This will feature a simple, robust design which allows bulk manufacturing, modularity in systems, sub-systems and stages and minimal turnaround time.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-6 Recently, Israel announced a "historic" deal with Lebanon. Consider the following statements about this**

1- It aimed at resolving a long-running maritime border dispute over Caspian waters.

2- The gas field in question is located on the maritime boundary between the two countries and this agreement would allow both countries to get royalties from the gas.

3- It sets a border between the maritime waters of Lebanon and Israel for the first time.

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-7 With reference to Multi-State Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2022, recently approved by Cabinet, consider the following statements**

1- To improve ease of doing business, increase financial discipline and enable raising of funds in the Multi-State Cooperative Societies.

2- The Bill will incorporate the provisions of the 102nd Constitutional Amendment.

3- Provisions for setting up of Cooperative Election Authority, Cooperative Information Officer and Cooperative Ombudsman have also been proposed in the Bill.

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) 3 only

**Que-8 Which state has recently notified the first Indian sanctuary for the endangered Slender Loris in Karur and Dindigul districts.**

- a) Karnataka  
b) Kerala  
c) Telangana  
d) Tamil Nadu

## ANSWER

1- (a)

- The Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) is a multi-national forum for strengthening cooperation towards promoting peace, security and stability in Asia. It was founded by the first President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Elbasy Nursultan Nazarbayev, on 5 October 1992, at the 47th Session of the United Nations General Assembly.
- The Member States, while affirming their commitment to the UN Charter, believe that peace and security in Asia can be achieved through dialogue and cooperation leading to a common indivisible area of security in Asia where all states co-exist peacefully and their peoples live in peace, freedom and prosperity.
- India is one of the founding members of Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA), and it has supported CICA's initiatives through organizing and participating in various CICA activities.

2- (b)

- The Right to Information (RTI) is an act of the Parliament of India which sets out the rules and procedures

regarding citizens' right to information. It replaced the former Freedom of Information Act, 2002. Under the provisions of RTI Act, any citizen of India may request information from a "public authority" (a body of Government or "instrumentality of State") which is required to reply expeditiously or within thirty days. In case of matter involving a petitioner's life and liberty, the information has to be provided within 48 hours.

- Although Right to Information is not included as a Fundamental Right in the Constitution of India, it protects the fundamental rights to Freedom of Expression and Speech under Article 19(1)(a) and Right to Life and Personal Liberty under Article 21 guaranteed by the Constitution.

3- (a)

- The highest decline (94 per cent) was in the Latin America and the Caribbean region.
- Africa recorded a 66 per cent fall in its wildlife populations from 1970-2018 and the Asia Pacific 55 per cent.
- WWF identified six key threats to biodiversity — agriculture, hunting, logging, pollution, invasive species and climate change — to highlight

'threat hotspots' for terrestrial vertebrates.

- The Living Planet Index (LPI), featuring about 32,000 populations of 5,230 species across the world, showed that vertebrate wildlife populations are plummeting at a particularly staggering rate in tropical regions of the world.
- Mangroves continue to be lost to aquaculture, agriculture and coastal development at a rate of 0.13 per cent per year, according to the findings. Many mangroves are also degraded by overexploitation and pollution, alongside natural stressors such as storms and coastal erosion, added the report.

4- (c)

- Andhra Pradesh, Assam and Gujarat are among the 15 States and UTs categorised as achievers in the logistics index chart 2022, according to a report released by the commerce and Industry Ministry.
- Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Puducherry, Sikkim and Tripura are the other States categorised as fast movers in the ranking.
- The 15 States and UTs ranked in the aspirers category include Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Mizoram,

Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Ladakh, Nagaland, Jammu and Kashmir, and Arunachal Pradesh.

- The other States and UTs which are in the achievers category include Chandigarh, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

5- (c)

- NGLV will feature a simple, robust design which allows bulk manufacturing, modularity in systems, sub-systems and stages and minimal turnaround time. Potential uses will be in the areas of launching communication satellites, deep space missions, future human spaceflight and cargo missions.

6- (d)

- It aimed at resolving a long-running maritime border dispute over Mediterranean waters.
- The draft agreement aims to settle Israel and Lebanon's competing claims over offshore gas fields in the region.
- While Israel is already producing natural gas at nearby fields, what this agreement does is that it resolves a

territorial dispute in the eastern Mediterranean sea, in an area that Lebanon wants to explore for natural gas.

- The gas field in question is located on the maritime boundary between the two countries and this agreement would allow both countries to get royalties from the gas. It also sets a border between the maritime waters of Lebanon and Israel for the first time.

7- (b)

- The Bill will incorporate the provisions of the 97th Constitutional Amendment.
- The 97th constitutional amendment, which dealt with issues related to effective management of co-operative societies in the country was passed by Parliament in December 2011 and had come into effect from February 15, 2012.

8- (d)

- A total of 11,806 hectares in the forest areas of the Karur and Dindigul districts will be merged to form the Kadavur Slender Loris Sanctuary, the first of its kind in India. These mammals are also protected under Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

- Slender Loris is listed as an endangered species according to the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The survival of the species depends on its habitat improvement, conservation efforts and mitigation of threats.
  - Slender Loris is a small nocturnal mammal that spends most of its life on trees. They act as biological predators of pests that harm agricultural crops and help farmers. The species has a wide range of ecological roles and importance in the terrestrial ecosystem.
- 

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**Que-1 With reference to Global Hunger Index (GHI), released recently, consider the following statements about**

- 1- India ranks 107 out of 121 countries on the Global Hunger Index.
- 2- GHI scores are based on the values of three component indicators - undernourishment, child stunting and child mortality.
- 3- The GHI score is calculated on a 100-point scale reflecting the severity of hunger, where zero is the best score (no hunger) and 100 is the worst.

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-2 Consider the following statements about International Day of Rural Women**

- 1- It is observed on October 17 every year.
- 2- The theme for the International Day of Rural Women 2022 is "Rural Women, key for a world free from hunger and poverty".
- 3- According to the UN, women make up more than 40% of the agricultural labour force in developing countries.

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-3 The livestock sector is one of the most rapidly growing components of the rural economy of India. Consider the following statements about this sector**

- 1- It accounts for 5% of national income and 28% of agricultural GDP in 2018-19.
- 2- In the last six years, the livestock sector grew at 7.9% (at constant prices) while crop farming grew by 2%.
- 3- The National Livestock Policy (NLP) of 2013, aimed at increasing livestock production and productivity in a sustainable manner, states that around 70% of the labour for the livestock sector comes from women.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-4 Consider the following statements about Galápagos Islands**

- 1- Cold ocean currents have sheltered the Galápagos Islands from global warming.
- 2- The island is a biodiverse ecosystem — home to several endangered species and designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- 3- La Nina poses a threat to the island group.

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-5 With reference to 'Purple Revolution', consider the following statements**

- 1- The Union Ministry of Science and Technology initiated the Purple Revolution or Lavender Revolution in 2016 through the Aroma Mission of the NITI Aayog.
- 2- The goal is to promote the indigenous aromatic crop-based agro-economy by shifting from foreign aromatics to homegrown kinds.
- 3- Originating from Jammu & Kashmir.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

- |                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| a) 1 and 2 only | b) 1 only |
|-----------------|-----------|

- |               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| c) 1, 2 and 3 | d) 2 and 3 only |
|---------------|-----------------|

**Que-6 Consider the following statements about Namdapha National Park and Tiger Reserve**

- 1- Namdapha is the known home of three large cats — tiger, leopard and clouded leopard.
- 2- Protected area in Arunachal Pradesh, and a biodiversity hotspot in the Eastern Himalayas.
- 3- Its name was a combination of two Singpho words, namely "nam" which means water, and "dapha" which means origin — the river originates from the Dapha Bum glaciers.

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-7 With reference to Barium, consider the following statements**

- 1- Barium, two and half times lighter than iron.
- 2- Barium salts are used in fireworks to generate green lights.
- 3- Because of its high chemical reactivity, barium is never found in nature as a free element.

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-8 Consider the following statements about Armed Forces Battle Casualties Welfare Fund, AFBCWF**

1- AFBCWF is a Tri service fund, utilised for grant of immediate financial assistance of ex-gratia, to the Next of Kin and dependents of Battle Casualties.

2- Amitabh Bachchan is the 'Goodwill Ambassador' of the initiative.

3- Indian Army, on behalf Ministry of Defence, Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare, is maintaining an account for the fund.

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

**ANSWER**

1- (b)

- India ranks 107 out of 121 countries on the Global Hunger Index in which it fares worse than all countries in South Asia barring war-torn Afghanistan.

- The Global Hunger Index (GHI) is a tool for comprehensively measuring and tracking hunger at global, regional, and national levels. GHI scores are based on the values of four component indicators - undernourishment, child stunting, child wasting and child mortality. The GHI score is calculated on a 100-point scale reflecting the severity of hunger, where zero is the best score (no hunger) and 100 is the worst.

- India also ranks below Sri Lanka (64), Nepal (81), Bangladesh (84), and Pakistan (99). Afghanistan (109) is the only country in South Asia that performs worse than India on the index.

- China is among the countries collectively ranked between 1 and 17 having a score of less than five.

2- (d)

- It is observed on October 15 every year.



- The United Nations general assembly had established this day on December 18, 2007, to stress the importance of equal opportunities for women and girls in rural areas. The UN believes that structural barriers and discriminatory social norms continue to constrain women's decision-making power and rural political participation in rural households and communities.
- The theme for the International Day of Rural Women (15 October), "Rural Women Cultivating Good Food for All", highlights the essential role that rural women and girls play in the food systems of the world.

3- (c)

- It is widely recognised that the majority of women workers in rural areas (72%) are engaged in agricultural activities. However, with the exception of participation in dairy co-operatives, specifically in milk marketing, women's role in the livestock economy is not as widely known or discussed.
- There were five million women members in dairy co-operatives in 2015-16, and this increased further to 5.4 million in 2020-21. Women accounted for 31% of all members of dairy producer cooperatives in 2020-21. In India, the number of women's

dairy cooperative societies rose from 18,954 in 2012 to 32,092 in 2015-16.

- The National Livestock Policy (NLP) of 2013, aimed at increasing livestock production and productivity in a sustainable manner, rightly states that around 70% of the labour for the livestock sector comes from women. One of the goals of this policy was the empowerment of women. The National Livestock Mission (NLM) of 2014-15 was initiated for the development of the livestock sector with a focus on the availability of feed and fodder, providing extension services, and improved flow of credit to livestock farmers. However, the NLM does not propose any schemes or programmes specific to women livestock farmers. The policy proposes that the State government allocates 30% of funds from centrally-sponsored schemes for women. There is no logic for the 30% quota.

4- (a)

- El Niño poses a threat to the island group. It shuts down the cold current every couple of years, causing penguin populations to collapse. El Niño is a climate pattern that causes unusual warming of surface waters in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean.

- Cold ocean currents have sheltered the Galápagos Islands from global warming, according to a recent study.
- The islands are protected from an otherwise warming Pacific Ocean by a cold, eastward equatorial ocean current. And this current has been gaining strength for decades.
- The equatorial undercurrent in the Pacific Ocean is bound to the equator by the force of the planet's rotation. Under the ocean's surface, a swift circulation of cold, nutrient-rich water flows from west to east.
- Some of this water is forced to the surface when it reaches the Galápagos Islands. The nutrient-rich water triggers photosynthesis and leads to an explosion of food for a wide variety of animals.
- The cold ocean current creates a cooler, more stable environment for coral reefs and marine life and birds that often live much closer to the poles.
- Galápagos is home to the critically endangered — Galápagos penguin, Galápagos fur seal and Galápagos sea lion.

5- (d)

- The Union Ministry of Science and Technology initiated the Purple

Revolution or Lavender Revolution in 2016 through the Aroma Mission of the CSIR.

6- (c)

- It is the fourth largest national park in India.

7- (d)

- Barium, two and half times heavier than iron, is the heaviest-ever detected element.
- Scientists have detected barium in the upper atmosphere of two giant exoplanets for the first time, noted a new study.
- These exoplanets are two ultra-hot Jupiters — WASP-76b and WASP-121b — which orbit their host stars WASP 76 and WASP 121.
- The presence of heavy elements at high altitudes in the atmospheres of ultra-hot Jupiters indicates that some unique atmospheric dynamics are at play.
- This discovery of barium is surprising because heavy elements like barium are expected to quickly fall into the lower layers of the atmosphere, given these exoplanets have high gravity.

8- (c)

**Que-1 With reference to, Digital Banking Units (DBU), consider the following statements**

- 1- The DBUs will enable those who do not have ICT infrastructure to access banking services digitally.
- 2- They will also assist those who are not tech savvy to adopt digital banking.
- 3- The DBUs will also facilitate onboarding to Government credit link schemes through the Jan Samarth portal and end-to-end digital processing of a small ticket MSME/retail loans.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-2 With reference to Interpol, consider the following statements**

- 1- Interpol is a secure information-sharing platform that facilitates criminal investigation of police forces across the globe through collection and dissemination of information received from various police forces.
- 2- It aims to promote the widest-possible mutual assistance between criminal police forces.
- 3- Blue notice is a structured communication issued by the Interpol to all

member-nations notifying the name(s) of persons against whom an arrest warrant is pending in a particular country.

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-3 Some initiatives by the Government of India on better production**

- 1- Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana, which promotes organic farming.
- 2- Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana, which focuses on more crops per drop for improved water use.
- 3- Soil Health Management which fosters Integrated Nutrient Management under the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture.

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-4 Consider the following statements about Indian gaur**

- 1- It is the largest wild bovine that is a protected species and included in Schedule I of the Wild Life Protection Act, 1972.
- 2- They are listed as critically endangered in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List.
- 3- Approximately 85% of the population present in India.

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-5 What are Rythu Bharosa Kendras (RBKs) that are being visited by an Ethiopian delegation?**

- 1- RBKs are unique seeds-to-sales, single-window service centres for farmers that have been set up across the state.
- 2- They are a one-stop solution to all farmers' needs and grievances.
- 3- RBKs sell pre-tested quality seeds, certified fertilisers and animal feed.

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-6 Consider the following statements about East Asia Summit**

- 1- The East Asia Summit (EAS) is a regional forum held annually by leaders.
- 2- EAS meetings are held after the annual ASEAN leaders' meetings, and plays an important role in the regional architecture of Asia-Pacific.
- 3- The first summit was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka in 2005.

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-7 Consider the following statements about IBSAMAR VII exercise**

- 1- The name IBSAMAR is an abbreviation of India-Brazil-South Africa Maritime.
- 2- A joint multinational maritime exercise.
- 3- This year this exercise held at Goa, India.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-8 Consider the following statements about INS Arihant**

1- Launched in 2009 and Commissioned in 2016, INS Arihant is India's first indigenous nuclear powered ballistic missile capable submarine.

2- Built under the secretive Advanced Technology Vessel (ATV) project, which was initiated in the 1990s.

3- INS Arihant and its class of submarines are classified as Strategic Strike Nuclear Submarines (SSBN), which is the hull classification symbol for nuclear powered ballistic missile carrying submarines.

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

**ANSWER**

1- (c)

The DBUs will enable those who do not have ICT infrastructure to access banking services digitally. They will also assist those who are not tech savvy to adopt digital banking. In DBU, the products and services will be offered to customers in 2 modes:

- Self Service Mode
- Digital Assistance Mode

DBUs will be different from traditional branch in following aspects:

- They will provide banking services including cash deposit & withdrawal 24 x 7.
- Services shall be provided digitally.
- People not having connectivity or computing devices can do banking transactions from DBU in a paperless mode.
- Bank staff will be available to help and guide users for banking transactions in assisted mode
- Will help in providing digital financial literacy and create awareness for adopting digital banking.

2- (a)

- Red notice is a structured communication issued by the Interpol to all member-nations notifying the name(s) of persons against whom an arrest warrant is pending in a particular country.

- The head of Interpol is the President who is elected by the General Assembly. He comes from one of the member-nations and holds office for four years. The day-to-day activities are overseen by a full-time Secretary General elected by the General Assembly, who holds office for five years. The General Assembly lays down the policy for execution by its Secretariat which has several specialised directorates for cybercrime, terrorism, drug trafficking, financial crime, environmental crime, human trafficking, etc. Every member-country is the Interpol's face in that country.

3- (c)

- For improving food access, especially for vulnerable populations, the Government of India drives programmes such as the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY), the Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman Yojana (PM POSHAN Scheme), and take-home rations.

4- (b)

- They are listed as vulnerable in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List.
- It is also found in Burma and Thailand.
- There are about 13,000 to 30,000 gaurs in the world with approximately 85% of the population present in India.

5- (c)

- Set up for the first time in the country, the RBKs are unique seeds-to-sales, single-window service centres for farmers that have been set up across the state.
- They are a one-stop solution to all farmers' needs and grievances. RBKs sell pre-tested quality seeds, certified fertilisers and animal feed. Farmers can purchase or hire farm equipment, and even sell their produce at the prevailing MSP in the RBKs.

6- (a)

- The East Asia Summit (EAS) is a regional forum held annually by leaders of, initially, 16 countries in the East Asian, Southeast Asian, South Asian and Oceanian regions, based on the ASEAN Plus Six mechanism. Membership expanded to 18

countries including Russia and the United States at the Sixth EAS in 2011.

- The first summit was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 14 December 2005.

7- (a)

- This year this exercise held at Port Gqeberha (also known as Port Elizabeth), South Africa.
- BSAMAR are a series of naval exercises between the navies of India, Brazil and South Africa.

8- (c)

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GES  
REPORTER

**Que-1** As per a recent analysis by Global Energy Monitor (GEM), a firm that tracks utilisation of the fuel-source internationally, consider the following statements

- 1- On average, India's coal mines use only two-thirds of the capacity with some large ones using only 1%.
- 2- GEM performed its analysis by surveying annual reports of Coal India and its subsidiaries.
- 3- India's 427 MTPA of planned new coal mine capacity place it first in the world.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-2** Consider the following statements about International E-Waste Day

- 1- International E-Waste Day is held on October 14 every year.
- 2- Hoarding of small, unused, dead or broken plug-in and battery-operated products is the focus of this year's 5th annual International E-Waste Day.
- 3- This year's slogan is 'Recycle it all, no matter how small!'.

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-3** Union Minister for Railways, Communications and Electronics & Information Technology had recently inaugurated India's First Aluminum Freight Rake - 61 BOBRNALHSM1 at Bhubaneswar Railway Station. Consider the following statements about Aluminium Rake

- 1- Fully Lockbolted construction with no welding on superstructure.
- 2- 100% is resale value of the rakes.
- 3- Lower maintenance cost due to higher corrosion and abrasion resistance.

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) 3 only       |



**Que-4 With reference to global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) recently released, consider the following statements**

1- As many as 41.5 crore people exited poverty in India during the 15-year period between 2005-06 and 2019-21, out of which two-thirds exited in the first 10 years, and one-third in the next five year.

2- The report produced by the World Bank and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI).

3- The global MPI constructs a deprivation profile of each household and person through 10 indicators spanning health, education and standard of living.

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) 3 only

**Que-5 Consider the following statements about Electoral bonds**

1- The electoral bonds were introduced with the Finance Bill (2017).

2- These are an instrument through which anyone can donate money to political parties.

3- The political parties can choose to encash such bonds within a month of

receiving them and fund their electoral expenses.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-6 With reference to Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act of 2006, consider the following statements**

1- The Act recognises the traditional forest dwellers' rights and occupation of forest land since generations.

2- The law provides for development rights to forest dwellers like schools, anganwadis, fair price shops, drinking water supply, vocational training centres, etc.

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

**Que-7 The Central Government had recently released Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) Guidelines for grant of one-time financial support for promoting establishment of paddy straw based pelletisation and torrefaction plants. Consider the following statements about this**

1- The setting up of these plants will help resolve the problem of stubble burning and generate income for farmers.

2- Pelletizing is a thermochemical process that aims to decrease the water and volatiles contents from the biomass, thus improving some of its fuel properties.

3- Torrefaction is the most widely used process for the size reduction of many thermoplastic materials, including raw polymers and mixed compounds.

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-8 What is parole?**

1- Parole is a system of releasing a prisoner with suspension of the sentence.

2- A broadly similar concept is furlough, which is given in case of long-term imprisonment.

3- Parole is seen as a matter of right, to be granted periodically irrespective of any reason and merely to enable the prisoner to retain family and social ties.

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

### ANSWER

1- (a)

- GEM performed its analysis by surveying annual reports of Coal India, the largest coal producer in the world, and its subsidiaries and underlines that the company has not listed capacity constraints as among the reasons it fails to reach production targets. Instead, they blame “..competition from renewables, infrastructure impasses, and land-use concerns for hindering output..”.
- India’s 427 MTPA of planned new coal mine capacity place it second in the world after China with 596 MTPA. In some major mining regions, like Jharkhand and Odisha, the industry has over 100 million tonnes in unused capacity at active mine sites, amounting to over 40% of unused mine capacity in those States.

2- (c)

- Roughly 5.3 billion mobile/smartphones will drop out of use this year, according to non-profit Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Forum, which started the day in 2018. The electronics would reach a height of around 50,000 km if stacked flat and on top of each other. That's an eighth of the distance to the moon.
- WEEE Forum is an international association of 46 e-waste producer responsibility organisations.
- The top five hoarded small electronic products were (in order): small electronics and accessories (eg, headphones, remotes), small equipment (eg, clocks, irons), small IT equipment (eg, hard drives, routers, keyboards, mice), mobile and smartphones, small food preparation appliances (eg, toasters, grills).
- Meanwhile, LED lamps ranked the top of the list of products most likely to be trashed.

3- (b)

Features of Aluminium Rake:

- Fully Lockbolted construction with no welding on superstructure.

- The tare is 3.25 tons lower than normal steel rakes, 180 ton extra carrying capacity resulting in higher throughput per wagon.
- Higher payload to tare ratio 2.85.
- The reduced tare will reduce carbon footprint as lower consumption of fuel in empty direction and more transport of freight in loaded condition. A single rake can save over 14,500 tonnes of CO2 over its lifetime.
- 80% is resale value of the rakes.
- Cost is 35% higher as the superstructure is all aluminium.
- Lower maintenance cost due to higher corrosion and abrasion resistance.

Iron industry consumes a lot of Nickel and Cadmium which comes from import. So, proliferation of Aluminum wagons will result in less import. At the same time, this is good for local aluminum industry.

4- (b)

- The report produced by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI).
- Improvement in MPI for India has significantly contributed to the decline in poverty in South Asia and it

is for the first time that it is not the region with the highest number of poor people, at 38.5 crore, compared with 57.9 crore in Sub-Saharan Africa.

- The global MPI constructs a deprivation profile of each household and person through 10 indicators spanning health, education and standard of living. All indicators are equally weighted within each dimension. The global MPI identifies people as multidimensionally poor if their deprivation score is 1/3 or higher.
- The MPI is calculated by multiplying the incidence of poverty and the average intensity of poverty. The MPI ranges from 0 to 1, and higher values imply higher poverty. By identifying who is poor, the nature of their poverty (their deprivation profile) and how poor they are (deprivation score), the global MPI complements the international \$1.90 a day poverty rate, which was revised by the World Bank last month to \$2.15 per day.
- Bihar, the poorest State in 2015/2016, saw the fastest reduction in MPI value in absolute terms. The incidence of poverty there fell from 77.4% in 2005/2006 to 52.4% in 2015/2016 to 34.7% in 2019/2021. However, in relative terms, the poorest States have not caught up. Of the 10 poorest

States in 2015/2016, only one (West Bengal) was not among the 10 poorest in 2019/2021. The rest— Bihar, Jharkhand, Meghalaya, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan — remain among the 10 poorest.

5- (a)

- These are an instrument through which anyone can donate money to political parties. Such bonds, which are sold in multiples of Rs 1,000, Rs 10,000, Rs 1 lakh, Rs 10 lakh, and Rs 1 crore, can be bought from authorised branches of the State Bank of India. As such, a donor is required to pay the amount — say Rs 10 lakh — via a cheque or a digital mechanism (cash is not allowed) to the authorised SBI branch. The donor can then give this bond (just one, if the denomination chosen is Rs 10 lakh, or 10, if the denomination is Rs 1 lakh) to the party or parties of their choice.
- The political parties can choose to encash such bonds within 15 days of receiving them and fund their electoral expenses. On the face of it, the process ensures that the name of the donor remains anonymous.

6- (c)

- Kerala noted that its population density was twice that of the entire country as per the 2011 census.

7- (a)

- Along with unfavourable meteorological conditions, paddy straw burning in Punjab and Haryana is a major reason behind the alarming spike in air pollution levels in the national capital in October and November. Farmers set their fields on fire to quickly clear off the crop residue before cultivating wheat and potato.
- According to government data, Punjab and Haryana generate around 27 million tonnes of paddy straw annually, of which about 6.4 million tonnes are not managed.
- To address air pollution issue and to reduce the carbon footprint of thermal power plants and industries, the government had earlier mandated co-firing of 5 to 10 per cent biomass along with coal.
- Pelletizing is the most widely used process for the size reduction of many thermoplastic materials, including raw polymers and mixed compounds.
- Torrefaction is a thermochemical process that aims to decrease the water and volatiles contents from the

biomass, thus improving some of its fuel properties: higher energy density, hydrophobic behavior, elimination of biological activity, easier grindability, more homogeneous composition and so forth.

8- (a)

- Parole is a system of releasing a prisoner with suspension of the sentence. The release is conditional, usually subject to behaviour, and requires periodic reporting to the authorities for a set period of time.
  - A broadly similar concept is furlough, which is given in case of long-term imprisonment. While furlough is seen as a matter of right, to be granted periodically irrespective of any reason and merely to enable the prisoner to retain family and social ties, parole is not a matter of right and may be denied to a prisoner even when he makes out a sufficient case.
-

**Que-1 With reference to Sendai Framework, consider the following statements**

- 1- The framework is a global blueprint for disaster risk reduction and prevention.
- 2- Of the seven targets in the framework, Target G aims to “substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments to the people by 2025”.
- 3- The framework has 38 indicators to measure progress on risks and losses.

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-2 The ‘Quadripartite’ — comprising the United Nations (UN) Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health — unveiled the five-year One Health Joint Action Plan recently. Key areas were focused on in the plan are**

- 1- One Health capacity for health systems
- 2- Emerging and re-emerging zoonotic epidemics

3- Neglected tropical and vector-borne diseases

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 The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has flagged risks due to bigtech's hold on financial services, saying it can undermine financial stability. Consider the following statements about how**

- 1- The complex governance structure of the bigtechs, limits the scope for effective oversight and design of entity-based regulations.
- 2- Bigtechs can impact the risk and maturity transformation functions through their direct exposure to provision of financial services.

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 |
-

**Que-4 Consider the following statements about Carbon dating**

1- Carbon dating is a widely-used method to establish the age of organic materials, things that were once living.

2- The dating method is based on the fact that Carbon-14 (C-14), an isotope of carbon with an atomic mass of 14, is radioactive, and decays at a well-known rate.

3- The age of things that are more than 40,000-50,000 years old can be easily arrived at through carbon dating.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-5 Consider the following statements about Radiometric dating methods, whose two commonly employed methods for dating rocks are potassium-argon dating and uranium-thorium-lead dating**

1- The radioactive isotope of potassium decays into argon, and their ratios can give a clue about the age of rocks.

2- Uranium and thorium have several radioactive isotopes, and all of them decay into the stable Argon atom and the ratios of these elements present in the material can be measured and used to make estimates about age.

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
- 

**Que-6 Consider the following statements about Oral Rehydration Solution (ORS)**

1- ORS, a combination of only water and salts.

2- The WHO eventually adopted ORS as the standard method for treating cholera and other diarrhoeal diseases.

3- Today, the WHO recommends a combination of sodium chloride, anhydrous glucose, potassium chloride and Trisodium citrate dihydrate as the ORS formula.

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-7 What are Kamikaze drones?**

1- These are small unmanned aircraft packed with explosives that can be flown directly at a tank or a group of troops that are destroyed when it hits the target and explodes.

2- The name comes from the World War 2 era's feared Germany's kamikaze pilots, who conducted suicide attacks by intentionally crashing their explosive filled aircraft into enemy targets.

3- The small lethal drones are difficult to detect on radar, and through the use of facial recognition, can be programmed to hit targets without human intervention.

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-8 Consider the following statements about Nihonshu/Japanese sake, recently in News**

1- An alcoholic beverage.

2- In Japan, nihonshu is regarded as a special and valuable beverage made from fermenting rice.

3- Recently Japan filed an application seeking Geographical Indication (GI) tag for this sake.

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

**ANSWER**

1- (b)

- Of the seven targets in the framework, Target G aims to “substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments to the people by 2030”.
- The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015–2030) is an international document that was adopted by the United Nations (UN) member states between 14 and 18 March 2015 at the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction held in Sendai, Japan, and endorsed by the UN General Assembly in June 2015.
- It is the successor agreement to the Hyogo Framework for Action (2005–2015), which had been the most encompassing international accord to date on disaster risk reduction.

**The Sendai Framework sets four specific priorities for action:**

- Understanding disaster risk;



- Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk;
- Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience;
- Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response, and to "Building Back Better" in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.

2- (c)

- The Joint Plan of Action will create a framework and integrate systems and capacity to collectively better prevent, predict, detect and respond to health threats, said a press note. This will help improve the health of humans, animals, plants, and the environment, while contributing to sustainable development.
- One Health is an integrated, unifying approach that aims to sustainably balance and optimise the health of humans, animals, plants and ecosystems. It is the primary approach for addressing the complex health challenges facing our society, such as ecosystem degradation, food system failures, infectious diseases and antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

**Six key areas were focused on in the plan are:**

- One Health capacity for health systems

- Emerging and re-emerging zoonotic epidemics
- Endemic zoonotic
- Neglected tropical and vector-borne diseases
- Antimicrobial resistance and the environment
- Food safety risks

3- (c)

- Bigtechs, given their pervasive adoption as third-party service providers, generally become the underlying platform on which a host of services are offered. This uniquely positions the bigtechs to easily acquire cross-functional databases which can be exploited for generating innovative product offerings, making them dominant players in the market.
- The pervasiveness of bigtechs provides them with a large client base who are entrenched in using their platforms/ products with access to multiple facets of customers' data, generating strong networks effects, it said. The entry of bigtechs into finance also reflects strong complementarities between financial services and their core non-financial services. Besides the technological advantages, the bigtechs typically also

have the financial muscle to withstand the competitive pressures.

4- (a)

- The most abundant isotope of carbon in the atmosphere is C-12. A very small amount of C-14 is also present. The ratio of C-12 to C-14 in the atmosphere is almost static, and is known.
- Plants get their carbon through photosynthesis; animals get it mainly through food. Because plants and animals get their carbon from the atmosphere, they too acquire C-12 and C-14 in roughly the same proportion as is available in the atmosphere.
- When they die, their interactions with the atmosphere stops. While C-12 is stable, the radioactive C-14 reduces to one half of itself in about 5,730 years — known as its 'half-life'. The changing ratio of C-12 to C-14 in the remains of a plant or animal after it dies can be measured, and can be used to deduce the approximate time when the organism died.
- Also, the age of things that are more than 40,000-50,000 years old cannot be arrived at through carbon dating. This is because after 8-10 cycles of half-lives, the amount of C-14

becomes almost very small and is almost undetectable.

5- (a)

- These are known as radiometric dating methods. Many of these involve elements with half-lives of billions of years, which enable scientists to reliably estimate the age of very old objects.
- Two commonly employed methods for dating rocks are potassium-argon dating and uranium-thorium-lead dating.
- The radioactive isotope of potassium decays into argon, and their ratios can give a clue about the age of rocks.
- Uranium and thorium have several radioactive isotopes, and all of them decay into the stable lead atom. The ratios of these elements present in the material can be measured and used to make estimates about age.

6- (d)

- ORS, a combination of water, glucose and salts, is a simple and cost-effective method of preventing diarrhoeal diseases, such as cholera.
- While initially, the medical fraternity was sceptical, the WHO eventually adopted ORS as the standard method for treating cholera and other

diarrhoeal diseases. Today, the WHO recommends a combination of sodium chloride, anhydrous glucose, potassium chloride and Trisodium citrate dihydrate as the ORS formula. In India, July 29 is observed as ORS Day.

- One of the advantages with ORS is that even untrained people can administer it and keep the crisis in check till the patient is admitted to the hospital. It contains electrolytes in right proportions and is given to babies and adults suffering from diarrhoea. This low-cost solution for a very common problem was pioneered by Dr Dilip Mahalanabis.

7- (b)

- These are small unmanned aircraft packed with explosives that can be flown directly at a tank or a group of troops that are destroyed when it hits the target and explodes. The name comes from the World War 2 era's feared Japanese kamikaze pilots, who conducted suicide attacks by intentionally crashing their explosive filled aircraft into enemy targets.
- The modern drone versions have the capability of surpassing traditional defences to strike their targets and are also cheaper than their larger counterparts. The small lethal drones are difficult to detect on radar, and

through the use of facial recognition, can be programmed to hit targets without human intervention.

8- (c)

- The Embassy of Japan, New Delhi, has filed an application seeking Geographical Indication (GI) tag for nihonshu/Japanese sake, an alcoholic beverage. It is learnt that this is the first time a product from Japan has filed for a tag at the Geographical Indication Registry here.
- According to details provided in the filing, in Japan, nihonshu is regarded as a special and valuable beverage made from fermenting rice. People traditionally drink nihonshu on special occasions, such as festivals, weddings or funerals, but it is also consumed on a daily basis. Thus, it is an integral part of the lifestyle and culture in Japan. The sake market (almost all are nihonshu) is the second largest brewed liquor (such as beer) market in Japan.
- For making nihonshu three main raw materials – rice, koji-kin (a type of fungal spore) and water – are required. The production of nihonshu follows an alcoholic fermentation method called parallel multiple fermentation and involves raw material treatment, koji making, starter culture making, mash making,

pressing, heat sterilisation and bottling. The rice and koji used should originate in Japan.

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GES  
REPORTER

**Que-1 Consider the following statements about Heads of Asian Coast Guard Agencies Meeting (HACGAM)**

1- It is a multilateral forum of 23 countries.

2- In 2004, the first HACGAM was hosted by South Korea Coast Guard at Seoul.

3- This is the only forum where all the heads of Asian Coast Guard agencies congregate.

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-2 With reference to Uniform Civil Code, consider the following statements**

1- A common civil code will help the cause of national integration by removing disparate loyalties to laws which have conflicting ideologies.

2- It is one that would provide for one law for the entire country, applicable to all religious communities in their personal matters such as marriage, divorce, inheritance, adoption etc.

3- Article 50 of the Constitution lays down that the state shall endeavour to secure a Uniform Civil Code for the citizens throughout the territory of India.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-3 With reference to Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), consider the following statements**

1- The GPEI is led by national governments with six core partners.

2- It is the largest international public health initiative in history.

3- It is financed by a wide range of public and private donors, who help meet the costs of the Initiative's eradication activities.

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-4 Consider the following statements about Swadesh Darshan**

1- Swadesh Darshan 2 moves away from theme-based tourist circuits and focuses on revving up destination tourism.

2- The Swadesh Darshan Scheme was launched by the Centre in 2014-15, under which the Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance to State governments, Union Territory Administrations or Central

Agencies for development of tourism infrastructure in the country.

3- Thirteen States are part of the first phase and two destinations from each State have been identified.

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) 3 only

**Que-5 With reference to Booker Prize 2022, consider the following statements**

1- Sri Lankan writer Shehan Karunatilaka won this year's Booker Prize.

2- Won for novel The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida, about a dead war photographer on a mission in the afterlife.

3- It is a literary prize awarded each year for the best novel written in English and published anywhere in the world.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-6 With reference to 'Secure Himalaya' project, consider the following statements**

1- Funded by the Global Environment Facility.

2- This supports the government's efforts for conservation of snow leopard and its habitat by developing and implementing a landscape-based approach for Himalayan ecosystems.

3- It addresses key issues of habitat degradation, threatened livelihoods and illegal trade in wildlife.

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-7 With reference to National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, consider the following statements**

1- The commission is headed only by a retired judge of the Supreme Court of India.

2- This was set up in 1988 under the Consumer Protection Act of 1986.

3- It is a quasi-judicial commission in India.

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

## ANSWER

**Que-8 With reference to Tele Mental Health Assistance and Networking across States (Tele-MANAS), launched recently, consider the following statements**

1- Initiative of the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

2- Tele-MANAS aims to provide free tele-mental health services all over the country round the clock, particularly catering to people in remote or under-served areas.

3- The programme includes a network of 23 tele-mental health centres of excellence, with NIMHANS being the nodal centre and International Institute of Information Technology-Bangalore (IIITB) providing technology support.

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

1- (b)

- The HACGAM is a multilateral forum of 23 countries including Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei, Cambodia, China, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Turkiye, Vietnam and one Region i.e. Hong Kong (China).
- In 2004, the first HACGAM was hosted by Japan Coast Guard at Tokyo.

2- (b)

- Article 44 of the Constitution lays down that the state shall endeavour to secure a Uniform Civil Code for the citizens throughout the territory of India.

3- (c)

- The GPEI is led by national governments with six core partners - Rotary International, the World Health Organization (WHO), the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.

4- (a)

- Prayagraj, Chitrakoot, and Gwalior are among the cities identified in 15 States across the country to be promoted as part of India's new domestic tourism policy which moves away from theme-based tourist circuits and focuses on revving up destination tourism.
- Fifteen States are part of the first phase which include Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and Maharashtra.
- Some of the prominent places identified are Jhansi and Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh, Gwalior, Chitrakoot and Khajuraho in Madhya Pradesh and Ajanta and Ellora in Maharashtra.

5- (a)

- It is a literary prize awarded each year for the best novel written in English and published in the United Kingdom or Ireland.
- Sri Lankan writer Shehan Karunatilaka won the Booker Prize on Monday for his second novel *The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida*, about a dead war photographer on a mission in the afterlife.
- This year's shortlist of Booker Prize contenders included British author Alan Garner's *Treacle Walker*,

Zimbabwean author NoViolet Bulawayo's *Glory*, Small Things Like These by Irish writer Claire Keegan, U. S. author Percival Everett's *The Trees* and *Oh William!* by U. S. author Elizabeth Strout.

6- (c)

- The Secure Himalaya project has, in fact, supported development of framework and guidelines for preparation of overall landscape management strategy for high-altitude Himalayas in not only UT of Ladakh but also in Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Sikkim. The efforts would eventually promote sustainable tourism and create new opportunities for local communities through protecting the overall ecology of the Himalayan region.

7- (d)

- The National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC), India is a quasi-judicial commission in India which was set up in 1988 under the Consumer Protection Act of 1986.
- Its head office is in New Delhi. The commission is headed by a sitting or retired judge of the Supreme Court of India.



8- (c)

- The programme includes a network of 23 tele-mental health centres of excellence, with NIMHANS being the nodal centre and International Institute of Information Technology-Bangalore (IIITB) providing technology support.
  - Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bengaluru and National Health Systems Resource Centre (NHRSC) will provide the technical support.
  - The Central government aims to open at least one Tele-MANAS Cell in each State/UT.
- 

GES  
REPORTER

**Que-1 With reference to Lothal, consider the following statements**

1- Lothal was one of the southernmost sites of the Indus Valley civilization, located in the Bhāl region of what is now the state of Gujarat.

2- Lothal was a thriving trade centre in ancient times, with its trade of beads, gems and ornaments reaching West Asia and Africa.

3- Archaeologist R.D. Banerjee discovered the port city of Lothal.

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-2 With reference to Committee of Parliament on Official Language, consider the following statements**

1- The Committee of Parliament on Official Language was set up in 1976 under Section 4 of The Official Languages Act, 1963.

2- The Committee has 30 members — 15 MPs from Lok Sabha and 15 MPs from Rajya Sabha.

3- The job of the Committee is to review the progress made in the use of Hindi for official purposes, and to make

recommendations to increase the use of Hindi in official communications.

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 Recently China placed a “hold” on two joint India-US proposals, to designate Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) top leaders at the United Nations Security Council’s (UNSC) 1267 list of terrorists affiliated to Al Qaeda and ISIS. Consider the following statements about 1267 committee?**

1- The 1267 committee that was set up in 1999 allows any UN member state to propose adding the name of a terrorist or terror group to a consolidated list, maintained by the Committee, that has affiliations to Al Qaeda and ISIS.

2- The Committee is bound to resolve all pending issues within six months.

3- If any member of the Committee, which comprises all members of the UN Security Council, places a hold on the listing or objects outright to it, the listing cannot be adopted.

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-4 Consider the following statements**

- 1- Green crackers cause 80 per cent less air pollution as compared to traditional ones.
- 2- Green crackers reduce emissions substantially and absorb dust and don't contain hazardous elements like barium nitrate.
- 3- The white color emitted through crackers is aluminium, magnesium and titanium, while the orange colour is carbon or iron.

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-5 Who are the Pasmanda Muslims?**

- 1- Pasmanda is a Persian word that means the 'ones left behind'.
- 2- The word is used to describe the depressed classes among Muslims who have been deliberately or consciously excluded from the fruits of power and privilege.

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
- 

**Que-6 What is National Highways Infra Trust (NHAI InvIT) bonds?**

- 1- NHAI InvIT is the infrastructure investment trust sponsored by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to support the government's National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP).
- 2- NHAI's InvIT is a Trust established by NHAI under the Companies Act, 1882 and SEBI (Security and Exchange Board of India) regulations.
- 3- Infrastructure investment trusts are institutions similar to mutual funds, which pool investments from various categories of investors and invest them into completed and revenue-generating infrastructure projects, thereby creating returns for the investor.

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-7 Consider the following statements about National Metallurgists Day Awards**

1- National Metallurgists Day Awards, was instituted in 1962 by the then Ministry of Steel & Mines.

2- To recognize and honor outstanding contributions of Metallurgists in the metallurgical field covering operation, research, design, education, waste management and energy conservation.

3- The awards are given on an annual basis, to any person from the Asia.

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-8 Consider the following statements about Women Involvement in Science and Engineering Research (WISER) programme**

1- Through this scheme, women researchers/entrepreneurs holding a regular position in academic/research institutions/industrial research organisations in India/Germany may apply to be a part of an ongoing R&D project of interest with acceptance from the host team.

2- The programme is open to all the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

3- This was launched by Indo-German Science & Technology Centre (IGSTC).

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

**ANSWER**

1- (a)

- Lothal was one of the southernmost sites of the Indus Valley civilization, located in the Bhāl region of what is now the state of Gujarat. The port city is believed to have been built in 2,200 BC. Lothal was a thriving trade centre in ancient times, with its trade of beads, gems and ornaments reaching West Asia and Africa. The meaning of Lothal (a combination of Loth and (s) thal) in Gujarati is “the mound of the dead”.
- Incidentally, the name of the city of Mohenjo-daro (also part of the Indus Valley Civilisation, now in Pakistan) means the same in Sindhi.
- Indian archaeologists started the search for cities of the Harappan Civilisation post-1947 in Gujarat’s Saurashtra. Archaeologist SR Rao led the team which discovered a number of Harappan sites at the time, including the port city of Lothal.

Excavation work was carried out in Lothal between February 1955 and May 1960. According to the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), Lothal had the world's earliest known dock, connecting the city to an ancient course of the Sabarmati river.

2- (b)

- The Committee of Parliament on Official Language was set up in 1976 under Section 4 of The Official Languages Act, 1963. Section 4 of the Act says “there shall be constituted a Committee on Official language, on a resolution to that effect being moved in either House of Parliament with the previous sanction of the President and passed by both Houses”.
- The Committee is chaired by the Union Home Minister, and has, in accordance with the provisions of the 1963 Act, 30 members — 20 MPs from Lok Sabha and 10 MPs from Rajya Sabha.
- The name of the Committee is a little misleading. This is because unlike the other Parliamentary panels, the Committee of Parliament on Official Language is constituted by the Home Ministry, and it does not, like the Committees of Parliament, submit its report to Parliament. Under the provisions of the 1963 Act, the panel submits its report to the President,

who “shall [then] cause the report to be laid before each House of Parliament, and sent to all the State Governments”.

3- (c)

### What does “placing a hold” mean?

- The 1267 committee that was set up in 1999 (updated in 2011 and 2015) allows any UN member state to propose adding the name of a terrorist or terror group to a consolidated list, maintained by the Committee, that has affiliations to Al Qaeda and ISIS. India has successfully proposed the listing of several terror entities in the past two decades, including Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) and Lashkar-e-Taiba. According to the rules, once a listing is proposed, it will be adopted into the list according to a “no-objections” procedure: which means, if any member of the Committee, which comprises all members of the UN Security Council, places a hold on the listing or objects outright to it, the listing cannot be adopted. As a permanent member of the UNSC, China can do this any number of times as its term doesn't run out, and it carries a veto vote.
- The Committee is bound to resolve all such pending issues within six months, but can allow extensions, meaning

that technically at the end of the six-month period, the “holding” country has to decide whether to accept the listing or place a permanent objection to it. However, in practice, many of the listing proposals have had prolonged waits.

4- (d)

- Green crackers cause 30 per cent less air pollution as compared to traditional ones.
- The white color emitted through crackers is aluminium, magnesium and titanium, while the orange colour is carbon or iron. Similarly, yellow agents are sodium compounds while blue and red are copper compounds and strontium carbonates. The green agent is barium mono chloride salts or barium nitrate or barium chlorate.
- Lead in crackers impact the nervous system while copper triggers respiratory tract irritation, sodium causes skin issues and magnesium leads to mental fume fever. Cadmium not just causes anemia but also damages the kidney while nitrate is the most harmful that causes mental impairment. The presence of nitrite causes irritation in mucous membrane, eyes and skin.

5- (c)

6- (b)

- NHAI’s InvIT is a Trust established by NHAI under the Indian Trusts Act, 1882 and SEBI (Security and Exchange Board of India) regulations.

7- (a)

The awards are given on an annual basis, only to Indian nationals. The first award was given in 1963 and subsequently every year thereafter. Over the years, the number of categories and the award money were revised upwards.

- Name of the scheme: National Metallurgist Award.
- Objective: To recognize outstanding contribution of metallurgists working in Iron & Steel sector covering the fields of manufacturing, research, design, education, waste-management, energy conservation and their specific contribution to achieve objectives of ATMA NIRBHAR BHARAT.
- Mode of Nominations: Nominations for the award shall be invited online on the Ministry of Steel’s Portal or the centralized portal being developed by MHA. Nominations will be through companies/ organizations or from the public through self-nomination.

- Date of National Metallurgist Award: 3rd February every year. (It was on 3rd Feb 1959 when the then President Dr Rajendra Parasad commissioned the first Blast Furnace of the country after independence, at Rourkela).

8- (c)

- This program by IGSTC, a joint initiative of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Government of Germany, will support women scientists holding regular/long term research positions in academia or research institutes/industry. The involvement in the program will be possible through lateral entry. There is neither requirement of break-in-career nor any age limit, and it will enable easy participation.
  - IGSTC is going to support the awardees with a maximum amounting to Rs. 39 L from the Indian side & € 48000 from the German side. WISER program offers 20 awards per year.
-

**Que-1 With reference to Pillars of Creation, an image recently taken by the Near Infrared Camera (NIRCam) of the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST), consider the following statements**

- 1- They are essentially very dense clouds of molecular hydrogen gas and dust that have survived longer than their surroundings while hot newborn stars in the vicinity throw infrared light in their direction.
- 2- These pillars appear like rock formations – three towers of gas and dust.
- 3- The Pillars of Creation are part of the Eagle Nebula, also known as Messier 16.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-2 Consider the following statements about Photoevaporation**

- 1- The process by which high-energy radiation like ultraviolet light causes changes in substances it hits.
- 2- Photoevaporation is the likely cause of the small planet radius gap.
- 3- This phenomenon causes the pillars of creation to erode slowly, exposing small globules of even denser gas buried within them.

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-3 Consider the following statements about Lok Adalats**

- 1- National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) and other legal service institutions conduct Lok Adalat.
- 2- It is a forum where disputes/cases pending in the court of law or at pre-litigation stage are settled/compromised amicably.
- 3- The Lok Adalat has been given statutory status under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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



**Que-4 With reference to National Education Policy 2020, consider the following statements**

1- It has set our education system on a path to delivering the highest quality education for all, with equity and inclusion.

2- Most transformative aspects of NEP 2020 is the new 5+3+3+4 curricular structure which integrates Early Childhood Care and Education for all children of ages 5 to 8.

3- As articulated in NEP 2020, National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage, uses 'play,' at the core of the conceptual, operational, and transactional approaches to curriculum organization, pedagogy, time and content organization, and the overall experience of the child.

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 With reference to Tourist Police Scheme, consider the following statements**

1- This is to be implemented in tandem with the Home Ministry, the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D), states and UTs.

2- The scheme aims to deploy tourist police personnel at major tourist attractions to assist tourists and to ensure tourists face no harassment.

3- Tourist Police Station will work under the jurisdiction of Home Ministry.

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 With reference to Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH), consider the following statements**

1- It is a partially-owned subsidiary of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

2- Set up to promote and facilitate an environment that accelerates innovation across the financial sector.

3- RBIH will provide the platform to anchor a shared vision among all financial ecosystem stakeholders and aid them in crafting forward-looking innovation strategies while addressing the most pressing issues in the Indian financial sector.

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-7 Consider the following statements about India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)**

1- This has been established under the Department of Posts, Ministry of Communication with 100% equity owned by the Government of India.

2- The bank has been set up with the vision to build the most accessible, affordable and trusted bank for the common man in India.

3- The fundamental mandate of IPPB is to remove barriers for the unbanked and under-banked and reach the last mile.

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-8 What is avian influenza?**

1- Avian influenza is a disease caused by an influenza A virus, affecting birds across many species.

2- Although avian influenza does not usually infect people, it is considered a zoonotic virus.

3- Some strains of avian influenza, such as highly pathogenic H1N5 and H9N7, can cause significant disease in humans, and in some instances even death.

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

**ANSWER**

1- (d)

- The Pillars of Creation were first made famous when NASA's Hubble Space Telescope captured an image of them in 1995. These pillars appear like rock formations – three towers of gas and dust which are more permeable than they look. The Pillars of Creation are part of the Eagle Nebula, also known as Messier 16. The Eagle Nebula was discovered in 1745 by Swiss astronomer Jean-Philippe Loys de Chéseaux, and is located 6,500 light-years from the earth in the constellation Serpens.
- The Hubble Space Telescope photographed the Pillars of Creation twice – once in 1995, and once in April 2015 when the telescope revisited the Eagle Nebula to mark its 25th year in orbit with an even clearer image.
- They are essentially very dense clouds of molecular hydrogen gas and dust that have survived longer than their surroundings while hot newborn stars in the vicinity (first pictured at the top

of the pillars with the Hubble Telescope and visible even more clearly with JWST) throw ultraviolet light in their direction.

2- (c)

- The process by which high-energy radiation like ultraviolet light causes changes in substances it hits is called photoevaporation. This phenomenon causes the pillars to erode slowly, exposing small globules of even denser gas buried within them. These globules are called evaporating gaseous globules (EGGs). Embryonic stars form inside some EGGs but abruptly stop growing when they are uncovered, separating them from the larger reservoir of gas from which they were drawing mass. The stars eventually emerge from the EGGs.

3- (c)

- Lok Adalat is one of the alternative dispute redressal mechanisms in India. It is a forum where disputes/cases pending in the court of law or at pre-litigation stage are settled/compromised amicably. The Lok Adalat has been given statutory status under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) and other legal service institutions conduct Lok Adalat.

- Under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, Lok Adalat can make awards/decisions, which are deemed to be a decree of a civil court and is final and binding on all the parties concerned. If the parties are not satisfied with the award of the Lok Adalat, there is no provision for an appeal against such an award, however, the parties concerned can initiate litigation by approaching the court of the appropriate jurisdiction by filing a case.

- The Lok Adalat system is not only quick, but it is also affordable, as there are no court fees involved. Dispute resolution in the Lok Adalat courts takes place by direct interaction of the Adalat members with the parties concerned. They are required to be manned by a retired or serving judicial officer and one more member, the qualifications for which are prescribed in the Legal Services Authorities Act.

4- (b)

- Most transformative aspects of NEP 2020 is the new 5+3+3+4 curricular structure which integrates Early Childhood Care and Education for all children of ages 3 to 8.

5- (a)

- The pan-India Tourist Police Scheme, which is to be implemented in tandem with the Home Ministry, the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D), states and UTs follows a BPR&D report on developing a template for the states and UTs to follow for setting up their own Tourist Police. The national conference, however, was conceived with the aim of creating pan-India SOPs and training programmes for the 'Tourist Police', with an aim to standardise processes.
- The scheme aims to deploy tourist police personnel at major tourist attractions to assist tourists and to ensure tourists face no harassment at the hands of middlemen, beggars, petty thieves and cheats and to help tourists at key transit points like railway stations, airports, bus terminals.
- Tourist Police Station will work under the jurisdiction of district police (Superintendent of Police) for all policing purpose.

6- (d)

- The Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of

the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) set up to promote and facilitate an environment that accelerates innovation across the financial sector.

- RBIH will provide the platform to anchor a shared vision among all financial ecosystem stakeholders and aid them in crafting forward-looking innovation strategies while addressing the most pressing issues in the Indian financial sector.
- The organisation serves as a focal point to position India as a global innovation hub for a network of financial services providers, fintech innovation hubs, policymakers, technologists, academia, and the investor community. The network will be empowered to ideate, incubate new capabilities, and enable access to sustainable, secure, and frictionless financial services for over a billion Indians.

7- (c)

- India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) has been established under the Department of Posts, Ministry of Communication with 100% equity owned by the Government of India. IPPB was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on September 1, 2018. The bank has been set up with the vision to build the most accessible, affordable and

trusted bank for the common man in India.

- The fundamental mandate of IPPB is to remove barriers for the unbanked and under-banked and reach the last mile leveraging a network comprising 160,000 post offices (145,000 in rural areas) and 400,000 postal employees. IPPB's reach and its operating model is built on the key pillars of India Stack - enabling Paperless, Cashless and Presence-less banking in a simple and secure manner at the customers' doorstep, through a CBS-integrated smartphone and biometric device.
- Leveraging frugal innovation and with a high focus on ease of banking for the masses, IPPB delivers simple and affordable banking solutions through intuitive interfaces available in 13 languages. IPPB is committed to provide a fillip to a less cash economy and contribute to the vision of Digital India. India will prosper when every citizen will have equal opportunity to become financially secure and empowered. Our motto stands true - Every customer is important; every transaction is significant, and every deposit is valuable.

8- (a)

- Avian influenza is a disease caused by an influenza A virus, affecting birds across many species.

- It can have significant consequences for the poultry industry, due to its potential impact on bird health, production and even international trade.
- Although avian influenza does not usually infect people, it is considered a zoonotic virus. That means it can be transmitted to humans through contact with infected birds, and sporadic cases have been seen when outbreaks happen in poultry.
- Some avian influenza viruses are more pathogenic than others. Pathogenic means disease-causing, so if highly pathogenic avian influenza gets into a poultry farm, it can cause sudden and significant mortality.
- It has been reported the outbreak underway on the farm where Emmanuel lives is a highly pathogenic strain, which has been affecting poultry and wild birds in the US since January 2022.
- Even low pathogenic strains can make birds unwell and cause them to lay fewer eggs.
- Avian influenza infections in humans can cause a range of clinical symptoms, from mild upper respiratory symptoms to severe pneumonia.

- Some strains of avian influenza, such as highly pathogenic H5N1 and H7N9, can cause significant disease in humans, and in some instances even death.
  - Recommended standard treatment for humans is with antiviral drugs, and will depend on individual circumstances and severity of the symptoms.
  - In domestic birds, the most likely path of infection is through contact with infected wild birds. This could be direct contact or contact through water contaminated with wild bird droppings.
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**Que-1 With reference to The United Nations, consider the following statements**

1- The United Nations came into existence on October 24, 1945, as the Charter was ratified by the 5 permanent Security Council members – China, France, Russia, UK, US – and a majority of other countries.

2- At present, it has 193 member states, and is headquartered in Geneva City, with main offices in New York, Nairobi, Vienna, and The Hague.

3- A successor to the League of Nations, the UN was formed after World War II to prevent future wars.

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) 3 only

**Que-2 Consider the following statements about Prasar Bharati**

1- This is India's state-owned public broadcaster, headquartered in New Delhi.

2- It is a statutory autonomous body set up by an Act of Parliament.

3- The organization started as All India Radio (AIR) in the past and Doordarshan (DD) was born to cater television services later and finally came Prasar Bharati (PB) by enactment of an act by the parliament.

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-3 With reference to Great Indian Bustards (GIB), consider the following statements**

1- The GIB is the State bird of Gujarat.

2- It is also considered India's most critically endangered bird and is protected under the Wildlife Protection Act.

3- The GIBs in Thar desert have been facing threat to their survival because of intensive agricultural practices, laying of power lines and industrialisation.

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-4 With reference to sandalwood spike disease, consider the following statements**

1- Spike disease caused by phytoplasma is the major disease of sandalwood.

2- Spike disease is characterized by extreme reduction in leaf size accompanied by stiffening and reduction of internode length.

3- Spiked trees die within 1–2 months after the appearance of visible symptoms.

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-5 With reference to Agni Prime, recently test-fired, consider the following statements**

1- Indigenously-developed new generation medium-range ballistic missile.

2- The missile's strike range is between 100 km and 200 km.

3- A successor for Agni-I and Agni-II missiles in the operational service of Strategic Forces Command.

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-6 Consider the following statements about Sukapaika River**

1- Sukapaika is one of the several distributaries of the mighty Krishna river in Odisha.

2- It branches away from the Mahanadi at Ayatpur village in Cuttack district and flows for about 40 kilometres (km) before

rejoining its parent river at Tarapur in the same district.

3- Sukapaika is being choked to death gradually due to government apathy.

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-7 With reference to Allmania multiflora, recently discovered, consider the following statements**

1- An annual herb that grows to a height of about 60 cm, Allmania multiflora is only the second species of this genus identified so far anywhere.

2- Allmania multiflora, is currently known only from a few locations, given its small population, the researchers have assessed it as Critically Endangered, applying IUCN Red List criteria.

3- Flowering and fruiting occurs from May to September.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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



**Que-8 What is single-use plastic?**

1- It refers to plastic items that are used once and discarded.

2- Single-use plastics account for a third of all plastic produced globally, with 98% manufactured from fossil fuels.

3- Single-use plastic has among the highest shares of plastic manufactured and used.

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

**ANSWER**

1- (b)

- At present, it has 193 member states, and is headquartered in New York City, with main offices in Geneva, Nairobi, Vienna, and The Hague.
- Its stated purposes are to maintain international peace and security, develop friendly ties among countries, and achieve international cooperation.

2- (c)

- It is a statutory autonomous body set up by an Act of Parliament and comprises the Doordarshan Television Network and Akashvani All India Radio, which were earlier media units of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
- In 2012, the TRAI had suggested that the Central and State governments, their companies, undertakings, joint ventures with the private sector and the entities funded by the governments should not be allowed to enter the business of broadcasting and, or, distribution of TV channels.
- The Supreme Court had observed that state control really meant governmental control, which in turn meant control of the political party or parties in power for the time being. It

had further observed that public service broadcasting should be in the hands of a corporation (s) set up under a statute and the constitution of such a corporation (s) should be such as to ensure their impartiality in political, economic and social matters and on other public issues. They should promote pluralism and diversity of opinions and views.

- In the context of the demand by some States to have their own broadcasting stations, the TRAI had cited the views of Sarkaria Commission and the Verghese Committee, noting that for controlling the "centrifugal" tendencies, the demand for either a concurrent or an exclusive power to the States regarding broadcasting could not be supported.

3- (d)

- The GIB, which is the State bird of Rajasthan, is also considered India's most critically endangered bird and is protected under the Wildlife Protection Act. Its population of about 150 in Rajasthan accounts for 95% of its total world population. The captive breeding of GIBs was taken up in the Desert National Park (DNP) through a project executed by the Dehradun-based Wildlife Institute of India in 2019.

- GIB was added to the world list of protected species of the 'Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals' during its 13<sup>th</sup> conference in Gandhinagar in 2020. Pakistan is a signatory to the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the convention.

- GIBs are critically endangered in Pakistan because of lack of protection and rampant hunting.

4- (a)

- Sandalwood, a semi-root parasitic tree is the source of the East Indian sandalwood and oil. Spike disease caused by phytoplasma is the major disease of sandalwood.

- The disease is noticed in all major sandal-growing states of India. Spike disease is characterized by extreme reduction in leaf size accompanied by stiffening and reduction of internode length. In advanced stage, the entire shoot gives the appearance of a spike inflorescence. Spiked trees die within 1–2 years after the appearance of visible symptoms. The pathogen, sandal spike phytoplasma, was first detected by electron microscopy in 1969. Phytoplasmas are pleomorphic and fragile organisms occupying relatively small areas within the sieve tubes (phloem) of the host plants.

5- (b)

- The missile's strike range is between 1,000 km and 2,000 km.
- Agni-P or Agni-Prime is a medium-range ballistic missile being developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) as a successor for Agni-I and Agni-II missiles in the operational service of Strategic Forces Command with significant upgrades in the form of composite motor casing, maneuverable reentry vehicle (MaRV) along with improved propellants, navigation and guidance systems.
- Agni-P is a two-stage, road mobile and solid-fueled MRBM which is transported by a truck and launched via a canister. It is a ballistic missile with dual redundant navigation and guidance system. It is the sixth missile in the Agni (missile) series of ballistic missile.

6- (d)

- Sukapaika is one of the several distributaries of the mighty Mahanadi river in Odisha.
- The problem has its roots in 1952, when the state government blocked the starting point of the Sukapaika with an embankment to save the villages around it from floods.

Subsequently, in 1957, two major projects — Hirakud Dam in Sambalpur district and Naraj barrage at Cuttack — were built upstream on the Mahanadi, ostensibly to control floods in it. The riverbed has suffered erosion and it is full of hyacinth from Ayatpur to Tarapur. Most trees along the river have also disappeared. At some patches, cattle heads are seen to be grazing on a dry patch in the middle of it.

- The average rainfall in Cuttack is around 1,700 mm, but as the river has lost its water holding capacity, it remains dry most of the year.
- The Sukapaika river was full of high quality fish varieties like pohala, rohi, bhakur and kerandi.

7- (c)

- Found at heights ranging between 1,000 to 1,250 metres, Allmania multiflora is an annual herb, erect, with branches arising from the base. The stem is red to violet at the base and green above. Shorter tepals and wider gynoecium (parts of the flower), shorter bracts and in the diameter of the seeds are among the characteristics that distinguishes it from Allmania nodiflora. Flowering and fruiting occurs from May to September.

- Allmania multiflora has been so named for having a higher number of florets within an inflorescence.

8- (c)

- Single-use plastic has among the highest shares of plastic manufactured and used — from packaging of items, to bottles (shampoo, detergents, cosmetics), polythene bags, face masks, coffee cups, cling film, trash bags, food packaging etc.
- 

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**Que-1 With reference to Tropical Cyclone, consider the following statements**

- 1- Tropical cyclones are high pressure systems that form over warm tropical waters
- 2- They typically form when the sea-surface temperature is above 26.5°C.
- 3- Tropical cyclones are dangerous because they can produce extreme winds, heavy rainfall with flooding and damaging storm surge that can cause inundation of low-lying coastal areas.

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 With reference to the draft National Credit Framework (NCrF), consider the following statements**

- 1- It has been drafted by a 11-member committee headed by National Council of Vocational Education and Training (NCVET) chairperson Prof. Dinesh Prasad Saklani.
- 2- Credits are essentially a “recognition that a learner has completed a prior course of learning, corresponding to a qualification at a given level”.
- 3- Credit frameworks are guidelines to be followed by schools, colleges and universities in adopting the credit system.

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-3 As per the 2022 report of The Lancet countdown on health and climate change: health at the mercy of fossil fuels, recently released, consider the following statements**

- 1- From 2000-2004 to 2017-2021, heat-related deaths increased by 55% in India.
- 2- The governments and companies continue to follow strategies that increasingly threaten the health and survival of all people alive today, and of future generations.
- 3- In 2021, Indians lost 16,720 crore potential labour hours due to heat exposure with income losses equivalent to about 5.4% of national GDP.

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-4 With reference to Biogas, consider the following statements**

1- A renewable fuel produced using the aerobic digestion process from organic feedstock.

2- It is primarily composed of methane (50-65 per cent), carbon dioxide (30-40 per cent), hydrogen sulfide (1-2.5 per cent) and a very small fraction of moisture.

3- Some of the common methods to purify biogas include water scrubbing, membrane separation, pressure swing adsorption and adsorption.

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-5 Consider the following statements about Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) heaviest rocket Launch Vehicle Mark 3 (LVM3 or GSLV Mark 3)**

1- With recent launch LVM3 has made its entry into the global commercial launch service market.

2- LVM3-M2 is the dedicated commercial satellite mission of NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), a Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under the Department of Space.

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

**Que-6 Why storms in October in Northern Indian Ocean Region?**

1- After the withdrawal of the Southwest monsoon, there is a rise in ocean heating, which leads to rise in sea surface temperature over the Bay of Bengal.

2- The atmospheric moisture availability over the ocean region, too, is higher.

3- When remnant systems from the South China Sea reach the Bay of Bengal, they get conducive conditions, aiding the formation and intensification of cyclones in October.

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-7 With reference to scorched earth tactics, recently in News, consider the following statements**

1- This form part of a military strategy which seeks to destroy anything that could be of use to the enemy.

2- The strategy seeks to deplete the enemy's resources to sustain warfare, and

also break their morale by inflicting heavy hardships on combatants and non-combatants alike.

3- In India, the armies of Mughal leader Babar were known for their scorched earth tactics.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-8 Consider the following statements about Honesty shop, recently launched for school students in Kerala's Ernakulam**

1- This is a set up where school children are left to pick edibles or stationery items on their own and drop the money in coin boxes without anyone to monitor.

2- This initiative was launched by the Student police cadet with the aim of cultivating valuable lessons on trust, truth and integrity for students.

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)

- Tropical cyclones are low pressure systems that form over warm tropical waters.
- A non-frontal low pressure system of synoptic scale developing over warm waters having organised convection and a minimum mean wind speed of 34 knots or greater extending more than half-way around near the centre and persisting for at least six hours.
- A cluster of thunderstorms can develop over warm tropical oceans. If that cluster persists in an area of low pressure, it can start rotating. If the conditions are just right, the cluster of thunderstorms can grow in size and sustain itself and then develop into a tropical cyclone.
- Once developed, a tropical cyclone is like a giant, atmospheric heat engine. The moisture from the warm ocean acts as its fuel, generating huge amounts of energy as clouds form.
- The rotating thunderstorms form spiral rainbands around the centre (eye) of the cyclone where the strongest winds and heaviest rain are found (eye wall), transporting heat 15 km or higher into the atmosphere. The drier cooler air at the top of the

atmosphere becomes the exhaust gas of the heat engine.

- Some of the cool air sinks into the low-pressure region at the centre of the cyclone, hence causing the relatively calm eye. The eye is usually about 40 km wide but can range from 10 to over 100 km, with light winds and often clear skies. The rest of the cool air spirals outward, away from the cyclone centre, sinking in the regions between the rainbands.
- As long as the environmental conditions support this atmospheric heat engine, the tropical cyclone can maintain its structure and even intensify over several days.

2- (d)

- It has been drafted by a 11-member committee headed by National Council of Vocational Education and Training (NCVET) chairperson Nirmaljeet Singh Kalsi.
- Credit frameworks are guidelines to be followed by schools, colleges and universities in adopting the credit system. For example, the National Higher Education Qualification Framework (NHEQF) lays out the guidelines for higher educational institutions that want to implement the credit system.

- The proposed NCrf seeks to integrate all the frameworks under one umbrella. Moreover, it also brings the entire school education system under the ambit of credits for the first time. So far, only the National Institute of Open Schooling followed a credit system. The NCrf also covers skill and vocational education.
- According to the University Grants Commission (Establishment and Operation of Academic Bank Of Credits in Higher Education) Regulations notified in July, 2021, the credits shall remain valid for a maximum duration of seven years.

3- (c)

- In India, 45% of urban centres are classified as moderately green or above. Urban redesign that puts health first can provide increased green space that reduces urban heat, improves air quality, and benefits physical and mental health.
- For India, the report adds that from 1951-1960 to 2012-2021, the number of months suitable for dengue transmission by *Aedes Aegypti* rose by 1.69%, reaching 5.6 months each year.
- Stating that climate change is amplifying the health impacts of multiple crises, the report further found that from 2012-2021, infants



under one year old experienced a higher number of heatwave days.

- Additionally it added that the duration of the growth season for maize has decreased by 2%, compared to a 1981-2010 baseline, while rice and winter wheat have each decreased by 1%.

4- (d)

- A renewable fuel produced using the anaerobic digestion process from organic feedstock.
- The upgraded or high-purity biogas compressed at 250 bar pressure results in a fuel called compressed biogas (CBG). This has properties similar to compressed natural gas (CNG) and could be directly used to power CNG engines.
- One major drawback of CBG is its existence in the gaseous form, which demands bigger volumes for transportation. Therefore, it is considered more suitable to power small-sized vehicles, though heavy engines have been used for short-distance driving.
- In the case of heavy vehicles, it has primarily been used to run public transportation in a city due to its need to refuel within a 500-kilometre distance.

- On the other hand, if the biogas-derived methane is liquefied by cooling it at -162 degrees Celsius, the fuel thus obtained is liquefied biogas (LBG). It has a higher energy density that lowers storage space requirements.

5- (c)

- LVM3-M2 is the dedicated commercial satellite mission of NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), a Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under the Department of Space, Government of India. This mission is being undertaken as part of the commercial arrangement between NSIL and m/s Network Access Associates Limited (m/s OneWeb Ltd), a U.K. based company. OneWeb is a joint venture between India's Bharti Enterprises and the U.K. government.
- With only four more launches to go, OneWeb remains on track to activate global coverage in 2023, while its connectivity solutions are already live in regions north of 50-degrees latitude. This partnership with NSIL and ISRO demonstrates OneWeb's commitment to provide connectivity across the length and breadth of India by 2023. From Ladakh to Kanyakumari and Gujarat to Arunachal Pradesh, OneWeb will bring secured solutions

not only to enterprises but also to towns, villages, municipalities and schools, including the hardest-to-reach areas across the country.

6- (c)

7- (a)

- Scorched earth tactics form part of a military strategy which seeks to destroy anything that could be of use to the enemy, including energy supplies, bridges, provision stores, agricultural fields, road and railway links, etc.
- The destruction could be carried out by the enemy, or by the retreating army of a country which does not want invaders to use its resources. Harming civilians as part of this strategy has been banned under the 1977 Geneva Convention.
- Scorched earth policy has been part of warfare since ancient times, with the nomad Scythians using the tactics in their war against the Persian Achaemenid Empire led by King Darius the Great (who ruled 522 BCE to 486 BCE). The nomadic herders Scythians would hide in the steppes after destroying food supplies and poisoning wells.
- In India, the armies of Maratha leader Chhatrapati Shivaji were known for

their scorched earth tactics. Some historians have said that while the Maratha leaders looted and burnt enemy towns, they were under orders to not harm civilians or desecrate religious sites.

8- (c)

- Student police cadet, an initiative launched in 2008 was started to inculcate better civic sense among students. The project also aims to mould them into responsible citizens who will react positively to the demands of society.

**Que-1 With reference to Indian bank notes and coins, consider the following statements**

- 1- Changes in the design and form of bank notes and coins are decided only by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- 2- Changes in the design of coins are the prerogative of the central government.
- 3- Section 22 of The Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, gives RBI the “sole right” to issue banknotes in India.

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-2 With reference to NavIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation), or the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS), consider the following statements**

- 1- It is a constellation of nine satellites and can be used to track location.
- 2- The first of these satellites (IRNSS-1A) were launched in 2013 and the latest in 2018.
- 3- Though available for use in mainland India as well as a range of 1,500 km around it, it isn't in wide regular use in India primarily because mobile phones haven't been made compatible to process its signals.

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 Blue Flag certification is accorded by the Denmark-based Foundation for Environment Education, with 33 stringent criteria under four major heads for the beaches, that is**

- 1- Environmental Education and Information
- 2- Bathing Water Quality
- 3- Safety and Services
- 4- Environment Management and Conservation

Which of the following given above is/are correct

- a) 1 and 2 only      b) 1, 2 and 3 only  
c) 2 and 3 only      d) All of the Above
-

**Que-4 Consider the following statements about Competition Commission of India (CCI)**

1- The CCI, the country's competition watchdog is empowered under the Competition Act, 2002, to check whether companies especially large tech companies are not eliminating healthy competition in the market and creating a monopoly.

2- It is a statutory body within the Ministry of Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

3- CCI approves combination under the act so that two merging entities do not overtake the market.

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) 3 only

**Que-5 What is a 'dirty' bomb?**

1- Dirty bombs combine conventional explosives with radioactive material and are designed to spread radioactivity that can cause massive death and contamination.

2- The intention of the dirty bomb is to cause panic and fear among public rather than actual physical damage.

3- Dirty bomb is a psychological weapon.

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 The Army, which has made three tranches of Emergency Procurements (EP) in the last few years, is preparing for a fourth round of EP which will be entirely from the domestic industry. Consider the following statements about Emergency Procurements (EP)**

1- Emergency Procurements are done to address critical operational requirements.

2- Emergency financial powers were granted to the armed forces by the Defence Ministry.

3- Under this they could procure weapons systems up to ₹500 crores on an "urgent basis without any further clearances to cut short the procurement cycle."

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-7 Consider the following statements about Sampurnanand Telescope (ST)**

- 1- Located near Nainital.
- 2- The telescope at Manora Peak was established in 1972 when ARIES was known as the UP State Observatory (UPSO).
- 3- Some of the breakthrough science results contributed by the telescope include the discovery of new rings around Saturn and the rings of Jupiter.

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-8 Consider the following statements about Offences of speech, expression**

- 1- There is a clear definition of what constitutes a "hate speech" in the IPC.
- 2- In 2018, the Home Ministry asked Law Commission to prepare a distinct law for online "hate speech" acting on a report by a committee headed by T.K. Viswanathan who recommended stricter laws.
- 3- The Viswanathan committee proposed inserting Sections 153 C (b) and Section 505 A in the IPC for incitement to commit an offence on grounds of religion, race, caste or community, sex, gender

identity, sexual orientation, place of birth, residence, language, disability or tribe.

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

### ANSWER

- 1- (d)
  - Changes in the design and form of bank notes and coins are decided by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the central government.
  - Any change in design of a currency note has to be approved by the RBI's Central Board and the central government. Changes in the design of coins are the prerogative of the central government.
  - The central bank internally works out a design, which is put before the RBI's Central Board. Section 22 of The Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, gives RBI the "sole right" to issue banknotes in India. Section 25 states that "the design, form, and material of bank notes shall be such as may be approved by the Central Government after consideration of the recommendations made by the [RBI's] Central Board".

- The Coinage Act, 2011 gives the central government the power to design and mint coins in various denominations. In the case of coins, the role of the RBI is limited to the distribution of coins that are supplied by the central government.
- The government decides on the quantity of coins to be minted on the basis of indents received from the RBI on a yearly basis, the central bank says. Coins are minted in four mints owned by the Government of India in Mumbai, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Noida.
- The other major step would be to increase the “safety” of the signals. “There’s Long Code and Short Code. Currently (NavIC) only provides short code. This has to become Long Code for the use of the strategic sector. This prevents the signal from being breached.
- Currently, NavIC satellites orbit earth in a geostationary or geosynchronous (GEO) orbit, or about 36,000 km from earth. MEO orbits occupy a space between GEO and Low Earth Orbit (LEO), or about 250-2,000 km from earth.

2- (d)

- NavIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation), or the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS), is a constellation of seven satellites that is akin to the American GPS, the European Galileo and the Russian GLONASS, and can be used to track location.
- A major forthcoming change is to add the L1 band into NavIC. This bandwidth is part of the GPS and is the most used for civilian navigational use. Currently NavIC is only compatible with the L5 and S bands and hasn’t easily penetrated into the civilian sector.

3- (d)

- The globally recognized and the coveted International eco-label "Blue Flag", has been accorded to two new beaches - Minicoy Thundi Beach and Kadmat Beach- both in Lakshadweep. This takes the number of beaches certified under the Blue Flag certification to 12.
- The other Indian beaches in the blue list are Shivrajpur-Gujarat, Ghoghla-Diu, Kasarkod and Padubidri-Karnataka, Kappad-Kerala, Rushikonda- Andhra Pradesh, Golden-Odisha, Radhanagar- Andaman and Nicobar, Kovalam in Tamil Nadu and Eden in Puducherry beaches.

- Foundation for Environment Education in Denmark (FEE) accords the globally recognized eco-label - Blue Flag certification. In order to qualify for this prestigious award, a series of stringent environmental, educational, safety-related and access-related criteria must be met and maintained. The mission of Blue Flag is to promote sustainability in the tourism sector, through environmental education, environmental protection and other sustainable development practices.

4- (b)

- It is a statutory body within the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

5- (c)

#### What is a dirty bomb?

- A dirty bomb contains conventional explosives like dynamite and radioactive materials such as uranium, which makes them cheaper and easier to transport when compared with nuclear weapons. When exploded, the material inside the bomb is scattered through the air. Although dangerous, it is not as destructive as a nuclear bomb.

#### Why is dirty bomb used?

- The intention of the dirty bomb is to cause panic and fear among public

rather than actual physical damage. Hence, it is also usually referred to as a "weapon of mass disruption" as opposed to a "weapon of mass destruction," which is the case for nuclear explosions.

#### Is the dirty bomb dangerous?

- Dirty bomb is a psychological weapon. The scattered material after an explosion depends on many other factors such as wind at the time of blast. The radioactive spread, if inhaled near the blast, could be somewhat dangerous.
- Previously, there is no record of successful dirty bomb explosion anywhere in the world. However, multiple attempts have failed.

6- (a)

- Emergency financial powers were granted to the armed forces by the Defence Ministry in the past under which they could procure weapons systems up to ₹300 crores on an "urgent basis without any further clearances to cut short the procurement cycle."

7- (a)

- The telescope at Manora Peak was established in 1972 when ARIES was known as the UP State Observatory (UPS0). It has been extensively used

for optical observations of comets, occultation by planets and asteroids, star-forming regions and star clusters, variable stars, transients, active galactic nuclei, etc.

- Some of the breakthrough science results contributed by the telescope include the discovery of new rings around Saturn and the rings of Uranus. The instrumentation and science capabilities of ST have paved the way for setting up National and International facilities by ARIES, such as the 3.6m DOT and the 4 meter International Liquid Mirror Telescope at Devasthal.

8- (d)

- There is no clear definition of what constitutes a “hate speech” in the IPC.
-



**Que-1 With reference to Internationalisation of the rupee, consider the following statements**

- 1- It is a process that involves increasing use of the local currency in cross-border transactions.
- 2- It involves promoting the rupee for import and export trade and then other current account transactions followed by its use in capital account transactions.

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

**Que-2 Consider the following statements about hybrid mustard**

- 1- Hybridisation involves crossing two genetically dissimilar plant varieties that must be from the same species.
- 2- Hybridisation isn't easy in mustard, as its flowers have both female (pistil) and male (stamen) reproductive organs, making the plants largely self-pollinating.
- 3- By genetic modification (GM) hybridisation been achieved in mustard.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-3 Consider the following statements about Financial Action Task Force (FATF)**

- 1- The global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog.
- 2- A 39-member inter-governmental organisation with its headquarters in Geneva.
- 3- This was set up in 1989 by the Group of Seven (G7) countries with the aim of setting global standards for countering the menace of money laundering.

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) 3 only

**Que-4 Consider the following statements about Financial Action Task Force (FATF) List**

- 1- States that exhibit "serious strategic deficiencies" in their AML/CFT/ PF regimes are placed under a "Black List" formally known as "High-Risk Jurisdictions subject to a Call for Action."
- 2- "Red Listing" amounts to a warning.
- 3- "Black Listing" entails serious economic consequences by making it incumbent on governments, international lenders and commercial entities to conduct "enhanced due diligence" checks while transacting business with the designated

countries and, in extreme cases, apply “counter-measures” against offenders.

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-5 According to a new United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) The Coldest Year of the Rest of Their Lives report, consider the following statements**

1- Nearly all the world’s children will be exposed to more frequent and severe heatwaves by 2050.

2- One in four children lives in areas where the average heatwave event lasts 4.7 days or longer as of 2020 and this percentage will rise to over three in four children under a low-emission scenario by 2050.

3- Children in southern, western and south-eastern Asia, eastern and southern Europe and northern Africa experience heatwaves of longer duration.

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-6 Consider the following statements about Heatwave**

1- A heatwave is any period of three days or more when the maximum temperature each day is in the top 10 per cent of the local 30-day average.

2- Heatwave risks to health include — heat stroke, heat stress, allergy, chronic respiratory conditions, asthma, mosquito-borne disease, cardiovascular disease, under-nutrition and diarrhoea.

3- High temperatures are linked to increased mental health problems in children and adolescents, including post-traumatic stress disorder and depression.

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-7 With reference to Coinage system in India, consider the following statements**

1- Kushans, who hailed from the Central Asian region and ruled till 3rd century BC, were the first to use the image of Goddess Lakshmi on their coins, along with Ardochsho, the Iranian Goddess of wealth.

2- Harihara –II (1377-1404) introduced coins that had Brahma-Saraswati, Vishnu-Lakshmi and Shiva-Parvati.

3- The Vijayanagara coins continued in circulation even after the kingdom was snuffed out in 1565 and commanded a premium when French traveller Tavernier visited the region.

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 Consider the following statements about UNEP report released recently, titled ‘Emissions Gap Report 2022: The Closing Window — Climate Crisis Calls For Rapid Transformation of Societies’, as per this report**

1- In India and six other top emitters, emissions have rebounded and increased after the pandemic.

2- The top seven emitters (China, the EU27, India, Indonesia, Brazil, the Russian Federation and the United States of America) plus international transport accounted for 55 per cent of global GHG (greenhouse gas) emissions in 2020.

3- Collectively, G20 members are responsible for 75 per cent of global GHG emissions.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

- a) 1 and 2 only      b) 1 only

- c) 1, 2 and 3      d) 2 and 3 only

## ANSWER

1- (c)

2- (d)

- Hybridisation involves crossing two genetically dissimilar plant varieties that can even be from the same species. The first-generation (F1) offspring from such crosses tend to have higher yields than what either parent can individually give.
- Such hybridisation isn't easy in mustard, as its flowers have both female (pistil) and male (stamen) reproductive organs, making the plants largely self-pollinating. Since the eggs of one plant cannot be fertilised by the pollen grains from another, it limits the scope for developing hybrids — unlike in cotton, maize or tomato, where this can be done through simple emasculation or physical removal of anthers.
- Scientists at Delhi University's Centre for Genetic Manipulation of Crop Plants (CGMCP) have developed the hybrid mustard DMH-11 containing two alien genes isolated from a soil bacterium called *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens*. The first gene ('barnase') codes for a protein that impairs pollen production and renders

the plant into which it is incorporated male-sterile. This plant is then crossed with a fertile parental line containing, in turn, the second 'barstar' gene that blocks the action of the barnase gene. The resultant F1 progeny is both high-yielding and also capable of producing seed/ grain, thanks to the barstar gene in the second fertile line.

3- (b)

- A 39-member inter-governmental organisation with its headquarters in Paris.
- The FATF seeks to fulfill its three-pronged mandate by drawing up a list of guidelines. Known as the "FATF Recommendations" or "FATF Standards," these are meant to "ensure a coordinated global response to prevent organised crime, corruption and terrorism." They encompass a range of domestic legislative, regulatory and enforcement actions, as well as international cooperation measures, that states are expected to adopt and implement. The FATF and its associate, or regional, members such as the Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering (APG) take their decisions on the basis of consensus. More than 200 countries and jurisdictions are committed to implementing the FATF's recommendations.

4- (b)

- "Grey Listing" amounts to a warning.

5- (c)

- Currently, some 559 million children are exposed to at least four to five hazardous heatwaves annually, according to The Coldest Year of the Rest of Their Lives report.

- The number will quadruple to over two billion by 2050 — up from 24 per cent of children in 2020. This amounts to an increase of about 1.5 billion children.

- "virtually every child on earth" will face severe heatwaves even under a low greenhouse gas emission scenario — with an estimated 1.7 degrees celcius of warming in 2050.

- High temperatures are linked to increased mental health problems in children and adolescents, including post-traumatic stress disorder and depression.

6- (d)

- A heatwave is any period of three days or more when the maximum temperature each day is in the top 10 per cent of the local 15-day average.

**Children are affected by heat in two broad ways:**

- **Risks to health and well-being and**
- **Social and educational risks**

- Heatwave risks to health include — heat stroke, heat stress, allergy, chronic respiratory conditions, asthma, mosquito-borne disease, cardiovascular disease, under-nutrition and diarrhoea.
- High temperatures are linked to increased mental health problems in children and adolescents, including post-traumatic stress disorder and depression.
- Extreme heat affects children's education and future livelihoods, said the UNICEF report.
- Heatwaves lead to poor health and nutrition among children and are linked to lower academic performance and attendance. High temperatures and lower hydration affect children's ability to concentrate.
- Heatwaves also threaten children's safety. Communities are forced to search for and compete over food and water resources as pastures and household income dry up. The resulting migration, displacement and conflict expose children to serious physical harm and violence risks.

7- (d)

- Kushans, who hailed from the Central Asian region and ruled till 3rd century AD, were the first to use the image of Goddess Lakshmi on their coins, along with Ardochsho, the Iranic Goddess of wealth.
- The Kushans also depicted Oesho (Shiva), moon deity Miro and Buddha in their coinage.
- Closer home, the Vijayanagara kings used coinage with Hindu idols. Harihara –II (1377-1404) introduced coins that had Brahma-Saraswati, Vishnu-Lakshmi and Shiva-Parvati. Some of these coins can be seen in the museum set up in Hampi by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) at Kamalapur.
- The British East India Co. at Madras Presidency minted coins labelled as the Three Swamy Pagoda, which depicts Lord Balaji flanked by Sridevi and Bhudevi on either side.

8- (d)

**Que-1 According to the 2022 Forest Declaration Assessment, released recently, consider the following statements**

- 1- Deforestation rates worldwide declined only modestly in 2021 by 6.3 per cent compared to the 2018-20 baseline.
- 2- Brazil was the world's largest contributor to deforestation in 2021.
- 3- A 20 per cent annual reduction is needed to be on course to halt deforestation completely by 2030.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-2 With reference to exercise, named 'Garuda VII', consider the following statements**

- 1- A bilateral exercise.
- 2- Indian Air Force (IAF) and Russian Air and Space Force (RASAF) are participating.
- 3- This year it will be held at Air Force Station Jodhpur.

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) 3 only       |

**Que-3 Consider the following statements about Office of profit**

- 1- An office of profit means a position that brings to the person holding it some financial gain, or advantage, or benefit.
- 2- It may be an office or place of profit if it carries some remuneration, financial advantage, benefit etc.
- 3- It is a term used in a number of national constitutions to refer to executive appointments.

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-4 With reference to Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF), consider the following statements**

- 1- Liquidity in the banking system refers to readily available cash that banks need to meet short-term business and financial needs.
- 2- On a given day, if the banking system is a net borrower from the RBI under Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF), the system liquidity is said to be in surplus.
- 3- The LAF refers to the RBI's operations through which it injects or absorbs liquidity into or from the banking system.

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-5 Consider the following statements about recent Israel Lebanon maritime border deal**

- 1- This opens up the possibility for both countries to conduct offshore energy exploration.
- 2- The deal ends a long-running maritime border dispute in the gas-rich Mediterranean Sea
- 3- The two countries have no diplomatic relations and have formally been at war since Israel's creation in 1948.

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-6 According to the World Health Organization's 2022 Global tuberculosis (TB) report, consider the following statements about**

- 1- Around 10.6 million people across the world were diagnosed with tuberculosis (TB) in 2021, an increase of 4.5% from 2020, while 1.6 million patients died of the bacterial disease.
- 2- With 28% cases, India was among the eight countries accounting for more than two-third (or 68.3%) of the total TB patients' count.
- 3- Nearly 82% of global TB deaths among HIV-negative people occurred in the Caribbean and South-America regions, with India alone accounting for 36% of such deaths.

Which of the following given above is/are correct

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

**Que-7 What is Bhoota Kola?**

- 1- It is usually performed in small local communities and rural areas.
- 2- An animist form of worship widely practised in coastal Tamil Nadu.
- 3- It is believed that a person performing the ritual has temporarily become a god himself.

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) 3 only

**Que-8 Consider the following statements about consent of states needed to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)**

1- CBI is governed by The Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act, 1946.

2- It must mandatorily obtain the consent of the state government concerned before beginning to investigate a crime in a state.

3- The CBI's position is in this respect different from that of the National Investigation Agency (NIA), which is governed by The NIA Act, 2008, and has jurisdiction all over the country.

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

## ANSWER

1- (a)

- Global forest loss decreased in 2021, but the crucial climate goal of stopping deforestation by 2030 would still be missed, according to an assessment.
- A 10 per cent annual reduction is needed to be on course to halt deforestation completely by 2030.
- Some 145 countries affirmed their commitment to halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation by 2030 at the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow (2021).
- Brazil was the world's largest contributor to deforestation in 2021. The country marked a 3 per cent rise in the rate of deforestation in 2021 compared to the baseline 2018-2020.
- The most significant improvements were observed in Russia (28.4 per cent), Canada (13.0 per cent), the United States (10.7 per cent), Brazil (6.2 per cent), and China (5 per cent).
- In April 2022, the Madras High Court declared nature as a living being with all rights and duties of a living being.



2- (b)

- Indian Air Force (IAF) and French Air and Space Force (FASF) are participating.
- This is the seventh edition of the bilateral exercise. The first, third and fifth editions were conducted in India in 2003, 2006 and 2014 at Air Force Stations Gwalior, Kalaikunda and Jodhpur, respectively. The second, fourth and sixth editions were conducted in France in 2005, 2010 and 2019.

3- (c)

- A number of countries forbid members of the legislature from accepting an office of profit under the executive as a means to secure the independence of the legislature and preserve the separation of powers.
- The English Act of Settlement 1701 and Act of Union 1707 are an early example of this principle. The Act of Settlement provided that no person who has an office or place of profit under the King, or receives a pension from the Crown, shall be capable of serving as a member of the House of Commons;
- The term is used in Article 102 (1)(a) of the Indian Constitution which bars a member of the Indian Parliament

from holding an office that would give its occupant the opportunity to gain a financial advantage or benefit. It refers to a post under central/state government which yields salaries, perks and other benefits. The actual amount of profit gained during the violation has no bearing on its classification. India had the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1950, 1951, and 1953 exempting certain posts from being recorded as offices of profit. All these Acts were replaced by the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959. By virtue of section 3 of the said Act, certain offices did not disqualify their holders from being members of Parliament. A person is disqualified from Lok Sabha if he or she holds an office of profit except some 56 officers now would not be regarded as the offices of profit for this purpose.

4- (b)

- On a given day, if the banking system is a net borrower from the RBI under Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF), the system liquidity is said to be in deficit. If the banking system is a net lender to the RBI, the liquidity is said to be in surplus. The LAF refers to the RBI's operations through which it injects or absorbs liquidity into or from the banking system.

5- (c)

6- (a)

- Nearly 82% of global TB deaths among HIV-negative people occurred in the African and South-East Asia regions, with India alone accounting for 36% of such deaths.
- With 28% cases, India was among the eight countries accounting for more than two-third (or 68.3%) of the total TB patients' count, said the report.
- The other countries were Indonesia (9.2% cases), China (7.4%), the Philippines (7%), Pakistan (5.8%), Nigeria (4.4%), Bangladesh (3.6%) and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (2.9%).
- The burden of drug-resistant TB (DR-TB) also increased by 3% globally between 2020 and 2021, with 450,000 new cases of rifampicin-resistant TB (RR-TB) being reported in 2021.
- This is the first time in several years that an upward trend has been reported in the number of people developing both TB and DR-TB, something that experts attribute to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. TB services, among many others, were disrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic in 2021, but its impact on the TB

response has been particularly severe, the report said.

- India was among the three countries — others being Indonesia and the Philippines — that accounted for most of the reduction in 2020 (67% of the global total). They made partial recoveries in 2021, but still accounted for 60% of the global reduction compared with 2019, according to the report.

7- (b)

- An animist form of worship widely practised in coastal Karnataka.
- Bhoota Kola is an annual ritual performance where local spirits or deities are worshipped. It is believed that a person performing the ritual has temporarily become a god himself. This performer is both feared and respected in the community and is believed to give answers to people's problems, on behalf of the god. There are several 'Bhootas' who are worshipped in the Tulu-speaking belt of Dakshina Kannada, Uttara Kannada and Udupi districts. It is usually performed in small local communities and rural areas.

8- (c)

- Section 6 of The DSPE Act ("Consent of State Government to exercise of

powers and jurisdiction”) says:  
“Nothing contained in section 5 (titled  
“Extension of powers and jurisdiction  
of special police establishment to  
other areas”) shall be deemed to  
enable any member of the Delhi  
Special Police Establishment to  
exercise powers and jurisdiction in  
any area in a State, not being a Union  
territory or railway area, without the  
consent of the Government of that  
State.”

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