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Current Affairs

Question 1:

Consider the following statements about the Centre for Internet of Ethical Things :

1. It is a collaboration with the World Economic Forum (WEF)
2. It has been set up by the Kerala Government.

Which of these statements is/are correct?

Options:

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: A

Explanation:

The Karnataka Government has decided to set up a Centre for Internet of Ethical Things In Bengaluru.

It is a collaboration with the World Economic Forum (WEF)

To bring together aspects of Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet of Things(IoT) and Ethics on a single platform.

Question 2:

Consider the following statements about the Global Risk Report:

1. The World Bank released the Global Risk Report.
2. It is part of the Global Risks Initiative which brings stakeholders together to develop sustainable, integrated solutions to the world's most pressing challenges.

Which of these statements is / are correct?

Options:



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- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: B

Explanation:

The World Economic Forum (WEF) released the Global Risk Report ahead of its annual meeting in Davos, Switzerland.

It is part of the Global Risks Initiative which brings stakeholders together to develop sustainable, integrated solutions to the world's most pressing challenges.

A "global risk" is defined as an uncertain event or condition that, if it occurs, can cause significant negative impact for several countries or industries within the next 10 years.

Question 3:

Consider the following statements about the PM-CARES Fund:

1. It is a public charitable trust with the Prime Minister as its Chairman.
2. Other Members include Home Minister, Home Minister and Finance Minister.
3. Contributions by companies towards the PM-CARES Fund will not count towards mandatory Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) expenditure.

Which of these statements is / are correct?

Options:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A

Explanation:

The government has set up the Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations Fund (PM-CARES Fund) to deal with any kind of emergency or distress situation like posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

This Fund has been set up owing to a number of requests made by the people to support the



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government in the wake of the COVID-19 emergency.

The Fund is a public charitable trust with the Prime Minister as its Chairman.

Other Members include Defence Minister, Home Minister and Finance Minister.

The Fund enables micro-donations as a result of which a large number of people will be able to contribute with the smallest of denominations.

The Fund will strengthen disaster management capacities and encourage research on protecting citizens.

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs has clarified that contributions by companies towards the PM-CARES Fund will count towards mandatory Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) expenditure.

Question 4:

Sahyadri Megha, recently in news, is associated with which of the following

Options:

- A. new variety of paddy
- B. new wheat variety
- C. new grape variety
- D. None of the above

Answer: A

Explanation:

Sahyadri Megha is a new red variety of paddy that is resistant to blast disease and rich in nutrients.

It was developed under the hybridization breeding method by cross-breeding 'Jyothi' variety with that

of 'Akkalu', a native disease-resistant and protein-rich paddy variety.

The new variety will also cater to the strong demand for red rice, rich in fibre and protein by health-savvy consumers in urban areas.



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Question 5:

With reference to the Hantavirus , consider the following statements:

1. Hantavirus are a family of viruses which are spread mainly by rodents.
2. There is no specific treatment, cure or vaccine for Hantavirus infection.

Which of these statements is / are correct?

Options:

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

Explanation:

Hantavirus are a family of viruses which are spread mainly by rodents.

It does not spread from one person to another but it can be contracted if someone comes in contact with a rodent that carries the virus.

The symptoms of Hantavirus are similar to that of the Corona Virus- Fatigue, fever, muscle aches, abdominal problems, coughing and shortness of breath.

There is no specific treatment, cure or vaccine for Hantavirus infection.

Science & Technology

1. Consider the following statement regarding Igniter Complex-

1. Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) Igniter Complex at High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL) in Bangaluru..
2. HEMRL is a premier laboratory of DRDO and primarily engages in developing Rocket and Gun Propellants, Pyrotechnic Devices.
3. Ignition system for Agni, Prithvi, Akash, Nag, Pinaka, Long Range Surface-to-Air Missile (LRSAM), etc. have been designed and developed in HEMRL.

Of the above, correct statement/s is/are:

(a) Only (1) & (3)



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(b) Only 2,&3

(c) Only 1 & 2

(d) All the above

ANSWER-a

Raksha Rajya Mantri Shri Shripad Naik inaugurated the Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) Igniter Complex at High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL) in Pune today. HEMRL is a premier laboratory of DRDO and primarily engages in developing Rocket and Gun Propellants, Pyrotechnic Devices, High Explosive Systems and synthesis of high energy molecules. HEMRL has created a state of the art facility for design, processing and evaluation of ignition systems. The facility consists of process, assembly & storage buildings and a design centre. Remotely controlled sophisticated equipments such as Sieve Shaker, Planetary Mixer, Granulating Machine, Pelleting Machine etc are installed in the process buildings. Design, modelling and simulation laboratory; assembly and testing centre are also part of Igniter Complex. The noteworthy developments of the group in recent past are development of cap based ignition system and multipoint simultaneous ignition system.

Ignition is a crucial and highly critical phenomenon in the ignition chain of Rocket motor. HEMRL has developed various fuel /oxidizer based igniter compositions using organic binders. The laboratory has developed several ignition systems to ensure reliable initiation of rocket motors of various tactical as well as strategic missiles. Ignition system for Agni, Prithvi, Akash, Nag, Pinaka, Long Range Surface-to-Air Missile (LRSAM), etc. have been designed and developed in HEMRL. Technology for AKASH, Nag missiles and Pinaka Mk-I Rocket has been transferred to Ordnance Factory, Dehu Road, Pune and private industries.

2. Consider the following statement about India International Science Festival (IISF-

1. IISF is the largest science festival in the world.
2. The theme for this year's festival is RISEN India –Research, Innovation and Science Empowering the Nation.
3. The students of kolkata Indian city have created the record for the largest astrophysics lessons .

Of the above, correct statement/s is/are:

(a) Only (1) & (3)

(b) Only 2,&3

(c) Only 1 & 2

(d) All the above



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Answer-d

The Guinness World Records for the largest astrophysics lesson (45 minutes) and assembly of spectrosopes was successfully achieved at the Science City, Kolkata on the first day of India International Science Festival (IISF) 2019 today with the participation of over 1,598

Students .Astronomers use spectrosopes to know details like temperature, chemical composition, etc. of celestial objects hundreds or millions of light years away from us.

A small personal model of advanced spectrosopes can easily be made by anyone using a box made of cardboard that has a very narrow window used to channel light into the spectroscope.

A piece of a Compact Disc is used to split the light by a process called diffraction. This attempt is dedicated to Meghnad Saha and C. V. Raman. The host city of the 5th IISF-2019 is home to renowned scientific institutions that have been the workplace of pioneering scientists who gave shape to science in India. IISF is the largest science festival in the world. The theme for this year's festival is RISEN India –Research, Innovation and Science Empowering the Nation.

3. Consider the following statement which is not true-

- a. IIIT Hyderabad have created the first ever Indian Brain Atlas (IBA).
- b. It was in 1993 that the MNI and the International Consortium for Brain Mapping (ICBM) created the first digital human brain atlas.
- c. That findings can have implications in treatment outcomes of certain neurological problems.
- d. None of above

Answer-d

Researchers at the IIIT Hyderabad said that the first ever Indian Brain Atlas (IBA) has been created. They stated that the next step is to prepare atlases for different age groups to study age related affects on brain anatomy. The average brain size of an Indian was smaller in height, width and volume in comparison to people of the Caucasian and eastern races. The immediate implication of this finding can be seen in treatment outcomes of neurological problems or brain related ailments - like dementia, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease etc.

The earliest known brain atlas, the Talairach and Tournoux atlas, was created by manually drawing post-mortem brain sections of a 60-year-old French woman. It was in 1993 that the MNI and the International Consortium for Brain Mapping (ICBM) created the first digital



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human brain atlas. More recently, MNI and ICBM have released other brain atlases that are widely used as a standard in neuroscience studies. However, these 'standard' brain templates created using Caucasian brains are not ideal to analyze brain differences from other ethnicities, such as the Indian population.

4. When was the Pulse Polio Programme was launched countrywide by the government of India?

- (a) 1994
- (b) 1995
- (c) 1993
- (d) 1996

Answer -b

A "Let us renew our pledge to reach every single child to save them from Vaccine Preventable Disease (VPDs)" said the Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare Dr. Harsh Vardhan, the pioneer of Pulse polio programme in the country. Addressing the media on the celebration of the Silver Jubilee of the Pulse Polio Programme, Dr. Harsh Vardhan said that an event is scheduled to be held on 31st October, 2019 at Dr. Ambedkar International Center, Janpath with an expected gathering of around 800-900 delegates. Speaking on the occasion, Dr Harsh Vardhan said that India being declared Polio free in 2014 was a long and momentous journey, "It all began with a single thought that if ballot papers can reach each person, two life saving drops of vaccination too can reach every child". The success of administering polio vaccination drops to 12 lakh children through 4000 'polio kendras' on 2nd October, 1994 in the city of Delhi, led to a countrywide movement and Pulse Polio Program was taken countrywide a year later in 1995.

In 1988, the World Health Assembly (WHA) passed a resolution to launch the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI). The Government of Delhi, under leadership of Dr. Harsh Vardhan, piloted the first ever large scale supplementary immunization campaign with OPV in 1994 giving birth to the "Pulse Polio" immunization campaign with the iconic 'Do Boond Zindagi Ki' tagline, on 2nd October 1994, Mahatma Gandhi's birthday. The campaign in Delhi reached nearly one million children up to the age of three years with two doses of OPV being administered on 02 October and 04 December through exclusive booth-based strategy. This strategy was later adopted and implemented by Government of India as Pulse Polio Campaigns. India's attainment of polio-free status in 2014 was coined by the World Health Organization as "one of the most significant achievements in public health," and marked not just India but the entire South East Asia Region being declared polio-free.

5. Consider the following statement –



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1. A state-wide data on malnutrition presented by the Indian Council of Medical Research(ICMR), Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) and National Institute of Nutrition (NIN) was released citing Malnutrition as the predominant risk factor for death in children.
2. Malnutrition is the reason for 2 out of 3 child death in India as per the recent study of Statewide data on Malnutrition.
3. Rate due to malnutrition was found to be highest in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Assam, and Rajasthan, mostly of Central India.

Of the above, correct statement/s is/are:

- (a) Only (1) & (3)
- (b) Only 2,&3
- (c) Only 1 & 2
- (d) All the above

Answer –d

A state-wide data on malnutrition presented by the Indian Council of Medical Research

(ICMR), Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) and National Institute of Nutrition (NIN) was released citing Malnutrition as the predominant risk factor for death in children younger than five in every state of India in 2017. The prevalence of low birth weight in India in 2017 was 21.4 per cent, child stunting 39.3 per cent, child wasting 15.7 per cent, child underweight 32.7 per cent, anaemia in children 59.7 per cent, anaemia in women 15–49 years of age 54.4 per cent, exclusive breastfeeding 53.3 per cent and overweight child 11.5 per cent. There would be 8.9 per cent excess prevalence for low birthweight, 9.6 per cent for stunting, 4.8 per cent for child underweight, 11.7 per cent for anaemia in children, and 13.8 per cent for anaemia in women relative to the 2022 targets if the trends estimated up to 2017 for the indicators continue till National Nutrition Mission 2022. Statewise, the DALY (disability adjusted life years) rate due to malnutrition was found to be highest in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Assam, and Rajasthan, mostly of Central India. The worst effect of child and maternal malnutrition is reflected in neonatal disorders, followed by lower respiratory infections and diarrhoeal diseases in children below 5 years.

These findings also raise concern about a host of policies in India which have been in practice since 1990 to tackle malnutrition, the key ones being Integrated Child Development Scheme launched in 1975, the National Nutrition Policy 1993, the Mid Day Meal Scheme for school children 1995, and the National Food Security Act 2013, as the prevalence of stunting, wasting and underweight remains high.



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Economy

Question 1.

Which among the following agencies publishes the Global Economic Prospects Report?

- A. World Economic Forum
- B. World Bank
- C. International Monetary Fund
- D. United Nations Development Programme

Answer B:

Explanation:

Global Economic Prospects is a World Bank Group flagship report that examines global economic developments and prospects, with a special focus on emerging market and developing economies. It is issued twice a year, in January and June.

Question 2.

With regards to PMI Index, consider the following statements:

- 1. It is compiled and constructed by Markit economics and is published by Nikkei.
- 2. Reading over 50 means expansion, whereas below 50 means contraction.

Select the correct answer form the codes given below:

- A. 1 only
- B 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer C:

Explanation:

The Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) is an index of the prevailing direction of economic trends in the manufacturing and service sectors. It consists of a [diffusion index](#) that summarizes whether market conditions, as viewed by purchasing managers, are expanding, staying the same, or contracting. The purpose of the PMI is to provide information about current and future business conditions to company decision makers, analysts, and investors.

The headline PMI is a number from 0 to 100. A PMI above 50 represents an [expansion](#) when compared with the previous month. A PMI reading under 50 represents a [contraction](#), and a reading at 50 indicates no change. The further away from 50 the greater the level of change.

Question 3.

Which of the following are differences between PMI Index & Index of Industrial Production?

- 1. PMI takes into account both private and public sector companies with whereas IIP takes into account only public sector companies.
- 2. PMI covers only services sector while IIP covers both services and manufacturing sector.
- 3. IIP is used in GDP calculation while PMI is not used for GDP calculation in India.

Select the correct answer form the codes given below:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3



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Answer B:

Explanation:

The popular index that measures growth in the industrial sector as far as India is concerned is the NSO prepared Index of Industrial Production. IIP shows the change in production volume in major industrial subsectors like manufacturing, mining and electricity. Similarly, the IIP also gives use based (capital goods, consumer goods etc) trends in industrial production. It covers broader industrial sector compared to PMI.

But compared volume based production indicator like the IIP, the PMI senses dynamic trends because of the variable it uses for the construction of the index.

For example, new orders under PMI show growth oriented positive trends and not just volume of past production that can be traced in an ordinary Index of Industrial Production. Inventory level shows recessionary or boom trends. Employment scenario is also sentimental indicator. Hence, the PMI is more dynamic compared to a standard industrial production index.

Question 4.

Consider the following statements:

1. Under Real Time Gross Settlement fund transfer, there is no minimum limit prescribed.
2. Under National Electronic Funds Transfer, maximum amount per transaction is limited to Rs 50,000 for cash-based remittances within India.

Which of the following statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer D:

Explanation:

National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT) is a nation-wide centralised payment system owned and operated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The set of procedures to be followed by various stakeholders participating in the system. There is no limit imposed by the RBI for funds transfer through NEFT system. However, banks may place amount limits based on their own risk perception with the approval of its Board

Advantages of using NEFT system,

- Round the clock availability on all days of the year.
- Near-real-time funds transfer to the beneficiary account and settlement in a secure manner.



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- Pan-India coverage through large network of branches of all types of banks.
- Positive confirmation to the remitter by SMS / e-mail on credit to beneficiary account.
- Penal interest provision for delay in credit or return of transactions.
- No levy of charges by RBI from banks.
- No charges to savings bank account customers for online NEFT transactions.
- Besides funds transfer, NEFT system can be used for a variety of transactions including payment of credit card dues to the card issuing banks, payment of loan EMI, inward foreign exchange remittances, etc.
- Available for one-way funds transfers from India to Nepal.

Question 5.

Consider the following statements:

1. Repo rate is always more than the reverse repo rate.
2. Bank rate is always less than the reverse repo rate

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer A:

Explanation:

Repo rate is the rate at which RBI lends money to commercial banks. The higher the repo rate the lesser the banks will borrow from RBI thereby reducing liquidity in the market and vice-versa.

Reverse repo rate is the rate at which RBI borrows from the commercial banks. The higher the reverse repo rate the more commercial banks will park their money in RBI thereby reducing the liquidity in the market and vice-versa.

Since RBI is a very secure institution, banks will prefer parking their money in RBI rather than giving loans to businesses and individuals.

Reverse repo rate is not kept high in order to avoid this scenario. This will ensure that the commercial banks will have sufficient funds to invest elsewhere or use as liquidity thereby increasing the buying capacity of the people.

Reverse repo rate is always lesser than repo rate so that the flow of money should be there from RBI to commercial banks. RBI doesn't want to keep all the money. The commercial banks and businesses need the money so that the economy has enough purchasing power.

Polity

Question 1:



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Consider the following statements regarding the Eat Right Movement.

1. It was launched by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).
2. The movement aims to cut down salt/sugar and oil consumption by 30% in three years.
3. FSSAI has put in place robust regulatory measures under three major pillars: Eat Safe, Eat Health and Eat Sustainably for the programme.
4. FSSAI has prescribed a limit for Total Polar Compounds (TPC) at 50% in cooking oil to avoid the harmful effects of reused cooking oil.

Which of these statements is correct?

Options:

- A. 1 & 3 only
- B. 2, 3 & 4 only
- C. 1, 2 & 3 only
- D. 2 & 4 only

Answer: C

Explanation:

Western Railway's Mumbai Central Terminus has become India's first Eat Right Station. Food Safety & Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has rated the station with four stars. The station was graded on the basis of food safety and hygiene, availability of healthy diet, food handling at preparation and food waste management among others. The food was certified and rated after a thorough inspection. 'Eat Right Station' is a part of the 'Eat Right India' initiative that was launched by FSSAI in 2018 to help passengers make a healthy choice.

About Eat Right Movement:

- It was launched by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).
- The movement aims to cut down salt/sugar and oil consumption by 30% in three years.
- It also aims to engage and enable citizens to improve their health and well-being by making the right food choices.

FSSAI has prescribed a limit for Total Polar Compounds (TPC) at 25% in cooking oil to avoid the harmful effects of reused cooking oil.

Question 2:

Consider the following statements regarding HIV AIDS.

1. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), adopted by member countries of the United Nations in 2015, set a target of ending the epidemics of AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria by 2030.
2. The key indicator chosen to track progress in achieving the target for HIV-AIDS is "the number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population, by sex, age and key populations".
3. In India, HIV-related deaths declined by 71% between 2005 and 2017.
4. India, China and Pakistan are among the 10 countries that accounted for more than 95 per cent of all new HIV infections in the Asia and the Pacific region in 2016, according to a UN report.

Which of these statements is correct?



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Options:

- A. 2 & 3 only
- B. 1, 3 & 4 only
- C. 1 & 4 only
- D. All of the above

Answer: D

Explanation:

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), adopted by member countries of the United Nations in 2015, set a target of ending the epidemics of AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria by 2030 (SDG 3.3). The key indicator chosen to track progress in achieving the target for HIV-AIDS is “the number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population, by sex, age and key populations”. Given the wide diversity of the HIV virus strains, development of a vaccine has been highly challenging but a couple of candidates are in early stage trials. However, mere technical innovations will not win the battle against HIV-AIDS.

UN 90-90-90 targets report:

India, China and Pakistan are among the 10 countries that accounted for more than 95 per cent of all new HIV infections in the Asia and the Pacific region in 2016, according to a UN report. The report by the Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS, UNAIDS, 'Ending AIDS: Progress towards the 90-90-90 targets', gives a comprehensive analysis of the 2014 targets to accelerate progress so that by 2020, 90 per cent of all HIV-infected people know their status, 90 per cent of all HIV-diagnosed people are accessing antiretroviral therapy (ART) and 90 per cent of those taking ART are virally suppressed.

Question 3:

Consider the following statements regarding IUCN Asian Elephant Specialist Group (AsESG)

1. The IUCN Asian Elephant Specialist Group (AsESG) is a global network of specialists (both scientists and non-scientists) concerned with the study, monitoring, management, and conservation of Asian Elephants (*Elephas maximus*).
2. AsESG is an integral part of the Species Survival Commission (SSC) of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).
3. Gajah is the bi-annual journal of the IUCN/SSC Asian Elephant Specialist Group (AsESG).

Which of these statements is correct?

Options:

- A. 2 & 3 only
- B. 3 only
- C. 1 & 2 only
- D. All of the above

Answer: D

Explanation:



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The International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) 10th Asian Elephant Specialist Group (AsESG) Meeting was held recently at Kota Kinabalu in Sabah, Malaysia.

More than 130 elephant conservationists, partner organisations and experts gathered at the meeting. Issues discussed included national action plans for elephant conservation by Asian elephant range states, best practices in managing human-elephant conflict, mechanisms to involve group members in monitoring the illegal killing of elephants, issues related to captive elephant welfare and sharing and learning from the African experience.

About AsESG:

The IUCN Asian Elephant Specialist Group (AsESG) is a global network of specialists (both scientists and non-scientists) concerned with the study, monitoring, management, and conservation of Asian Elephants (*Elephas maximus*).

Aim: To promote the long-term conservation of Asia's elephants and, where possible, the recovery of their populations to viable levels.

AsESG is an integral part of the Species Survival Commission (SSC) of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Functions:

It shall provide the best available scientifically grounded evidence to the abundance, distribution, and demographic status of Asian elephant populations in all 13 range states.

Gajah is the bi-annual journal of the IUCN/SSC Asian Elephant Specialist Group (AsESG).

Question 4:

Consider the following statements about Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana.

1. It shall cover senior citizens, belonging to BPL category and suffering from any of the age-related disability/infirmity Low vision, Hearing impairment, Loss of teeth and Locomotor disability.
2. Assistance is given in the form of assisted-living devices which can restore near normalcy in their bodily functions, overcoming the disability/infirmity manifested.
3. This is a Central Sector Scheme, fully funded by the Central Government.

Which of these statements is not correct?

Options:

- A. 3 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 only
- D. None of the above

Answer: D

Explanation:

Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana:

Coverage: Senior Citizens, belonging to BPL category and suffering from any of the age-related disability/infirmity Low vision, Hearing impairment, Loss of teeth and Locomotor disability.

What assistance is provided? Assisted-living devices which can restore near normalcy in their bodily functions, overcoming the disability/infirmity manifested. They are free-of cost.

Funding: This is a Central Sector Scheme, fully funded by the Central Government. The expenditure for implementation of the scheme will be met from the "Senior Citizens' Welfare Fund".



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Other key facts:

In case of multiple disabilities/infirmities manifested in the same person, the assistive devices will be given in respect of each disability/impairment.

Beneficiaries in each district will be identified by the State Governments/UT Administrations through a Committee chaired by the Deputy Commissioner/District Collector.

As far as possible, 30% of the beneficiaries in each district shall be women.

Question 5:

Which of the following is the correct definition of 'Anglo Indian' as per the article 366(2) of the Indian constitution?

Options:

- A. "a person whose father is or was of European descent but who is a native of India."
- B. "a person whose father or mother is or was of European descent but who is a native of India."
- C. "a person whose father or grandfather is or was of European descent but who is a native of India."
- D. "a person whose father or any of whose other male progenitors in the male line is or was of European descent but who is a native of India."

Answer: D

Explanation:

Anglo-Indians are unlikely to be nominated to Lok Sabha and state Assemblies from now on with the government recently introducing a bill to amend the Constitution seeking to not to extend the provision that is in place for the past 70 years but expires in January next year. Article 334 has laid down provisions for reserving the seats for SCs and STs and nomination of Anglo-Indians to Lok Sabha and state Assemblies, which shall cease to be in effect on the 25 January 2020, if not extended further.

Meaning of Anglo Indians in India:

The term Anglo Indian is defined as per the article 366 (2) of the Indian constitution; "a person whose father or any of whose other male progenitors in the male line is or was of European descent but who is a native of India."

Anglo Indians in Parliament and Legislative Assemblies:

Under article 331; the President of India is authorised to nominate 2 members of the Anglo Indian community if know member of this community is elected among the 543 members for the Lok Sabha.

International Relations

Question 1:

Budapest convention, recently in the news, is related to

Options:



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- E. Biochemical weapons
- F. Gender equality
- G. Cybercrimes
- H. Child rights

Answer: C

Explanation:

The United Nations has approved a Russian-led bid that aims to create a new convention on cybercrime, alarming rights groups and Western powers that fear a bid to restrict online freedom. The General Assembly approved the resolution sponsored by Russia and backed by China, which would set up a committee of international experts in 2020.

What is Budapest convention?

Also known as the Convention on Cybercrime, it is the first international treaty seeking to address Internet and computer crime by harmonizing national laws, improving investigative techniques, and increasing cooperation among nations.

It was drawn up by the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, France, with the active participation of the Council of Europe's observer states Canada, Japan, South Africa and the United States.

It is open for ratification even to states that are not members of the Council of Europe.

As of September 2019, 64 states have ratified the convention.

Question 2:

Avangard missile, recently in the news, is an invention of

Options:

- A. Russia
- B. China
- C. Israel
- D. France

Answer: A

Explanation:

It is Russian military's first Avangard hypersonic intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM).

It can fly 27 times the speed of sound.

The missile system is a reentry body carried atop an existing ballistic missile, which has the capability to manoeuvre. It's manoeuvring capability makes it difficult to predict its trajectory and gives it the ability to protect itself from the air and ballistic missile defences by delivering nuclear warheads to targets

The Avangard missiles have a range of over 6,000 km, weigh approximately 2,000 kg and can withstand temperatures of over 2000 degree celsius.

Question 3:

The Treaty of Bern led to the formation of

Options:



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- A. UNESCO
- B. UNICEF
- C. Universal Postal Union
- D. IUCN

Answer: C

Explanation:

The Union Cabinet has given its approval to the ratification of the Tenth Additional Protocol to the Constitution of the Universal Postal Union (UPU).

What is UPU?

- Established by the Treaty of Bern of 1874.
- It is a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN).
- Headquarters are located in Bern, Switzerland.
- The UPU contains four bodies consisting of the Congress, the Council of Administration (CA), the Postal Operations Council (POC) and the International Bureau (IB).

Functions:

- It also oversees the Telematics and Express Mail Service (EMS) cooperatives. Each member agrees to the same terms for conducting international postal duties.
- It coordinates postal policies among member nations, in addition to the worldwide postal system.

Question 4:

The Financial Action Task Force is an initiative of

Options:

- United Nations
- IMF
- G7
- G20

Answer: C

Explanation:

The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is an inter-governmental body established in 1989 on the initiative of the G7. It is a “policy-making body” which works to generate the necessary political will to bring about national legislative and regulatory reforms in various areas. The FATF Secretariat is housed at the OECD headquarters in Paris.

What is blacklist and grey list?

FATF maintains two different lists of countries: those that have deficiencies in their AML/CTF regimes, but they commit to an action plan to address these loopholes, and those that do not end up doing enough. The former is commonly known as grey list and latter as blacklist.

Implications: Once a country is blacklisted, FATF calls on other countries to apply enhanced due diligence and counter measures, increasing the cost of doing business with the country and in some cases severing it altogether. As of now there are only two countries in the blacklist — Iran and North Korea — and seven on the grey list, including Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Syria and Yemen.

Question 5:



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Consider the following statements regarding Organisation of Islamic Cooperation.

1. Organisation of Islamic Cooperation is an international organization founded in 1969, consisting of 57 member states.
2. The organisation states that it is “the collective voice of the Muslim world” and works to “safeguard and protect the interests of the Muslim world in the spirit of promoting international peace and harmony “.
3. The OIC has permanent delegations to the United Nations and the European Union.
4. Permanent Secretariat is in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

Which of these statements is correct?

Options:

- 2 & 3 only
- 3 & 4 only
- 1 & 2 only
- All of the above

Answer: D

Explanation:

The Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) has voiced concern over the Citizenship Amendment Act and the verdict in the Ayodhya case. The body has usually been supportive of Pakistan and often sided with Islamabad in its disputes with India.

Observations made by OIC:

- The OIC urged the Indian government to ensure the safety of the Muslim minority and the protection of their religious sites.
- It also cautioned that “any action, contrary to these principles and obligations, may lead to further tensions and may have serious implications on peace and security across the region.”

About the OIC:

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History

Question 1. Consider the following statements:



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1. Lokmanya Tilak in 1914 supported the war effort of the British government in the World War I hoping to gain self-government.
2. In 1915-16 Tilak launched Home Rule League separately in Maharashtra after having differences with Anie Besant.

Select the correct code:

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

Ans. a.

Explanation:

- Tilak was released in June 1914 and he supported the British Govt. in the world war-1 in the false belief of the loyalty of Indians would be honoured by the govt. in giving self government or Home Rule.
- In 1915-16 two home rule leagues movement were launched by Anie Besant and Tilak. The two Home Rule Leagues worked in cooperation and carried out an intense propaganda all over India in favour of the demand for the grant of home rule or self-government after the war.
- During this time Tilak gave a clarion call- "Home Rule is my birth-right and I shall have it".

Question 2. Which Sikh Guru received the land of Amritsar from the Mughal Emperor Akbar?

- a. Guru Amar Das.
- b. Guru Arjan.
- c. Guru Ram Das.
- d. Guru Angad.

Ans. C.

Explanation:

- Guru Ram Das was having cordial relations with Akbar who granted 500 bighas of land.
- Guru Ram Das built a new town called Ramdaspora which later on came to be known as Amritsar..

Question 3. Who were the founder of the Ahrar Movement?

1. Maulana Mohammad Ali.
2. Mazhar ul Haq.
3. Hasan Imam.
4. Hakim Ajmal Khan.
5. Maulana Zafar Ali Khan.

Select the correct code:

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



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Ans. D.

Explanation : (pg. no. 210 ncert bipan Chandra)

- **AHRAR MOVEMENT** - Founded in 1910 under the leadership of Maulana Muhammad Ali ,hussain imam, mazar-ul-haq ,Hakim ajmal khan and Jafar ali khan for active participation of the muslims in the national movement.

Question 4. Who called Subhas Chandra Bose as “Netaji”?

- Mahatma Gandhi.
- Jawahar Lal Nehru.
- Soldiers of INA.
- Japanese people.

Ans. c.

Explanation: (pg.no. 266 ncert bipan Chandra)

- INA was formed by Capt. Mohan Singh.
- INA was joined by Indian residents in South East Asia and by Indian soldiers captured by the Japanese forces in Malaya, Singapore and Burma.
- Subhas bose, who was now called as “Netaji” by the *soldiers of the INA*, gave his followers the battle cry of ‘Jai Hind’.
- INA hoped to enter India with Japanese forces to liberate India and Subhas Bose was declared as the head of the Provisional Government of Free India.

Question 5. The Tebhaga Movement of 1946 was launched by –

- Tribals.
- Sharecroppers.
- Muslim peasants.
- Sadhus and religious preachers.

Ans. B.

(Pg no.267 NCERT- BIPAN Chandra.)

Explanation:

- Peasant movements acquired a fresh thrust after 1945 as freedom approached.
- The most militant of the post war struggles was the Tebhaga struggle by the sharecroppers of Bengal who declared that they would pay not one half but one third of the crop to the landlords.