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Date: 28th Apr 2020 (Set 8)

Current Affairs

Question 1:

Consider the following statements about National Interlinking of Rivers Authority (NIRA)

1. It will be an exclusive body to implement projects for linking rivers.
2. It will take up both inter-State and intra-State projects.

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:

The Central government is working on the establishment of an exclusive body to implement projects for linking rivers- To be called the National Interlinking of Rivers Authority (NIRA).

It is expected to take up both inter-State and intra-State projects.

It will also make arrangements for generating funds, internally and externally.

Question 2:



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Consider the following statements about the 'Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP)':

1. It was launched by the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Govt. Of India.
2. Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India (BPPI) is the implementing agency of PMBJP.

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:

Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana' is a campaign launched by the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Govt. Of India, to provide quality medicines at affordable prices to the masses through special kendra's known as Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Kendra. Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India (BPPI) is the implementing agency of PMBJP. BPPI (Bureau of Pharma Public Sector Undertakings of India) has been established under the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Govt. of India, with the support of all the CPSUs.

Question 3:

Consider the following statements about the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs):

1. They have to maintain a minimum Capital to Risk weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR) of 9%, as per the regulatory norms prescribed by the Reserve Bank of India.
2. Regional Rural Banks were set up on the basis of the recommendations of the Narasimham Working Group (1975).



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3. The equity of a regional rural bank is held by the Central Government, concerned State Government and the Sponsor Bank in the proportion of 50:35:15.

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 Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has given its approval for continuation of the process of recapitalization of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) by providing minimum regulatory capital to RRBs for another year beyond 2019-20, that is, up to 2020-21.

This is for those RRBs which are unable to maintain minimum Capital to Risk weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR) of 9%, as per the regulatory norms prescribed by the Reserve Bank of India.

The Basel III norms stipulated a capital to risk weighted assets of 8%. However, as per RBI norms, Indian scheduled commercial banks are required to maintain a CRAR of 9%.

Regional Rural Banks were set up on the basis of the recommendations of the Narasimham Working Group (1975), and after the legislation of the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976.

The equity of a regional rural bank is held by the Central Government, concerned State Government and the Sponsor Bank in the proportion of 50:15:35.

Question 4:

YUVIKA programme has been launched by which of the following?

Options:



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- A. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- B. Ministry of Human Resource and Development
- C. Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR)
- D. None of the above

Answer: A

Explanation:

YUva Vigyani Karyakram (YUVIKA) programme has been launched by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). It is a special programme for School Children, in tune with the Government's vision "Jai Vigyan, Jai Anusandhan". The Program is primarily aimed at imparting basic knowledge on Space Technology, Space Science and Space Applications to the younger ones with the intent of arousing their interest in the emerging areas of Space activities.

Question 5:

Consider the following statements about Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB):

1. It is a statutory organisation.
2. It was set up under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

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:



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Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is a statutory organisation.

Constituted in September, 1974 under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.

It was also entrusted with the powers and functions under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

It is the apex organisation in the country in the field of pollution control, as a technical wing of MoEFCC.

Science & Technology

1. Second Scorpene class Submarine Khanderi, which has recently been received by Indian Navy, is manufactured by-

- (a) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited
- (b) Cochin Shipyard Limited
- (c) Hindustan Shipyard Limited
- (d) Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd,(GRSE)

Answer-a

INS Khanderi, the second Scorpene-class submarine that can attack with torpedoes as well as tube-launched anti-ship missiles whilst underwater or on surface, was launched at the Mazgaon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDL) in Mumbai in January 2017. The first Scorpene-class submarine .INS Kalvari was commissioned into the Navy by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in December 2017. On the occasion, Modi had said Kalvari was an excellent example of 'Make in India' and will boost the Navy's might..

2. Which of the following statements is not true regarding PET (Polyethylene Terephthalate)-

- (a). Bisphenol –A (BPA) is below its detection limit (BDL) 0.02mg/kg.
- (b) PET is responsible for almost all endocrine related disruptions.
- (c) Terelyne a famous fiber (synthetic) is made of PET.
- (d) PET is exclusively used only in bottles manufacturing

ANSWER- d

Polyethylene terephthalate (PET or PETE) is a general-purpose thermoplastic polymer which belongs to the polyester family of polymers. Polyester resins are known for their excellent combination of properties such as mechanical, thermal, chemical resistance as well as dimensional stability. Commercially available PET grades include un-reinforced to glass reinforced, flame retardant and high flow materials for various engineering applications that typically require higher strength and or .higher heat resistance. Addition



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of fillers like glass fibers, CNTs etc. help improve impact strength, surface finish, reduce, war page and several other benefits.

3. Recently Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) launched India's first large-scale trial for two new vaccines, named IMMUVAC and VPM1002 to fight against:

- (a) TB
- (b) HIV
- (c) Japanese Encephalitis
- (d) Ebola

ANSWER-a

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has launched India's first large-scale trial for two new TB vaccines, a report in the IE has indicated. This is the first time a large preventive TB vaccine trial involving more than 12,000 healthy household contacts of newly diagnosed TB patients from across six states of India are set to be enrolled. These vaccines aim to prevent infection (pre-exposure) or prevent primary progression or reactivation of latent TB infection (post-exposure), all of which have a critical role to play in India's big fight against TB. Two things must be know common man First, you need to know the names of the two new TB vaccines: Immuvac manufactured by Cadila Pharmaceuticals and VPM 1002 manufactured by Institute of India, Pune.

Second, let's understand the three testing phases of these trials. The trials are likely to undergo three testing phases. In the first phase, a small group of individuals take the trial vaccine, in the second phase, it is given to those with characteristics that seem similar to those for whom this new vaccine is intended. In the last phase, it is administered to several thousands of individuals, thus tested for safety as well as efficacy.

Based on the results, recommendations are to be sent to the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Though the vaccines are manufactured by Indian pharmaceutical companies, the price of the vaccines will be set by the government.

3. Which of the following crater have been scanned by Chandrayan-2 on its orbital maneuvers of the moon?

- (a) Surya
- (b) Mitra
- (c) Varun
- (d) Agni

ANSWER -b

Chandrayaan-2 mission is a highly complex mission, which represents a significant technological leap compared to the previous missions of ISRO, which brought together an Orbiter, Lander and Rover with the goal of exploring south pole of the Moon. This is a unique mission which aims at studying not just one area of the Moon but all the areas combining the



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exosphere, the surface as well as the sub-surface of the moon in a single mission. Chandrayaan-2 aims for enhancing our understanding of the Moon, stimulate the advancement of technology, promote global alliances and inspire a future generation of explorers and scientists. Moon provides the best linkage to Earth's early history. It offers an undisturbed historical record of the inner Solar system environment. Though there are a few mature models, further explanations were needed to understand the origin of the Moon. Extensive mapping of lunar surface to study variations in lunar surface were essential to trace back the origin and evolution of the Moon. Evidence for water molecules discovered by Chandrayaan-1, required further studies on the extent of water molecule distribution on the surface, below the surface and in the tenuous lunar exosphere to address the origin of water on Moon. The Lunar South pole is especially interesting because of the lunar surface area that remains in shadow is much larger than that at the North Pole. There could be a possibility of presence of water in permanently shadowed areas around it. In addition, South Pole region has craters that are cold traps and contain a fossil record of the early Solar System. The GSLV Mk-III is India's most powerful launcher to date, and has been completely designed and fabricated from within the country. It will attempt to soft-land the lander - Vikram and rover- Pragyan in a high plain between two craters, Manzinus C and Simpelius N. It is the first Space Mission to conduct a soft landing on the Moon's south polar region. Chandrayaan-2's orbiter or mother spacecraft has zeroed in on a crater on the moon named after 20th century's acclaimed radio physicist Sisir Kumar Mitra. Images of the crater are among the second set of pictures of the northern craters sent by the orbiter. The Mitra crater is on the edge of another crater. The pictures were taken by the Terrain Mapping Camera-2 around 2. 15 p.m. on August 23. The orbiter was then around 4,300 km from the moon, the Indian Space Research Organisation said in its update on Monday.

5. Which of the following agency has initiated project Netra-

- (a) ISRO
- (b) DRDO
- (c) Indian Air Force
- (d) Both (a) and b

ANSWER-a

In the middle of its two-month Chandrayaan-2 campaign, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) last month quietly initiated 'Project NETRA' – an early warning system in space to detect debris and other hazards to Indian satellites

The project estimated to cost ₹400 crore, when in place, will give India its own capability in space situational awareness (SSA) like the other space powers — which



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is used to 'predict' threats from debris to Indian satellites. It also goes so far as to serve as an unstated warning against missile or space attack for the country, experts say. The space agency says our SSA will first be for low-earth orbits or LEO which have remote-sensing spacecraft. Under NETRA, or Network for space object Tracking and Analysis, the ISRO plans to put up many observational facilities: connected radars, telescopes; data processing units and a control centre. They can, among others, spot, track and catalogue objects as small as 10 cm, up to a range of 3,400 km and equal to a space orbit of around 2,000 km. NETRA effort would make India a part of international efforts towards tracking, warning about and mitigating space debris.

ECONOMY

Question 1:

With which among the following countries has India signed Free Trade agreement (FTA)?

1. USA
2. Japan
3. South Korea
4. Sri Lanka

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer D:

Explanation:

Free Trade Agreement (FTA): It is a bilateral agreement whereby the countries may decide to reduce or eliminate the customs duty on commonly agreed goods. Usually, the list of goods on which the customs duty would not be reduced is part of Negative list and on all other goods the customs duty is eliminated. Normally, the FTAs cover trade in goods or trade in services. FTAs can also cover other areas such as intellectual property rights (IPRs), investment, government procurement and competition policy, etc. Example: India-ASEAN FTA in Goods.

Question 2:

With respect to operation Twist carried out by RBI recently, consider the following statements:

1. It refers to buying of short-term G-Secs and simultaneously selling long term G-Secs to influence the yield rates.
2. It would lead to decrease in long term rates of Interest in the Indian Economy.

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 B.

Explanation:

Recently, the RBI decided to undertake Special Open Market Operations (OMOs), which is sometimes referred to as "Operation Twist". Such an operation was carried out by the RBI to reduce the long term interest rates and improve the monetary policy transmission. This move by the RBI is considered to be significant mainly for two reasons. Firstly, it is considered to be unconventional monetary policy tool to influence the interest rates. Secondly, this was the first time that the RBI carried out such an operation.



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Question 3:

With reference to Provisioning Coverage Ratio (PCR), consider the following statements:

1. Under the RBI's provisioning norms, the banks are required to set aside certain percentage of their profits in order to cover risk arising from NPAs
2. The Provisioning Coverage Ratio (PCR) remains same for all the categories of NPAs.

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:

Provisioning Coverage Ratio (PCR): Under the RBI's provisioning norms, the banks are required to set aside certain percentage of their profits in order to cover risk arising from NPAs. It is referred to as "Provisioning Coverage ratio" (PCR). It is defined in terms of percentage of loan amount and depends upon the asset quality. As the asset quality deteriorates, the PCR increases. The PCR for different categories of assets is as shown below:

- Standard Assets (No Default): 0.40%
- Sub-standard Assets (> 90 days and less than 1 year): 15%
- Doubtful Assets (greater than 1 year): 25%-40%
- Loss Assets (Identified by Bank or RBI) : 100%

Question 4:

Which among the following is/are considered to be part of India's Forex Reserves?

1. Foreign Currency Assets (FCA)
2. Gold
3. Special Drawing Rights (SDRs)

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer D.

Explanation:

The Forex reserves of India has been always in news and it comprises of Foreign Currency assets (FCAs), Special Drawing Rights (SDRs), Gold and Reserve tranche with IMF.

Question 5:

With reference to Peer-to-Peer Lending platforms in India, consider the following statements:

1. These Platforms are allowed to accept deposits and lend loans to their customers.
2. These Platforms are presently regulated by the RBI.

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 B:

Explanation:

In order to protect consumers interest, the Reserve Bank has recently stated that on a peer-to-peer lending (P2P) platform the permissible exposure of a lender to all borrowers should not exceed Rs 50 lakh at any given point of time.



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The Peer-to-Peer lending is a mechanism which enables the people to borrow and lend money without the need for financial institutions such as banks. According to the RBI guidelines, 'Peer to Peer Lending Platform means an intermediary providing the services of loan facilitation via online medium or otherwise, to the participants'.

Hence, P2P lending platform brings together the people who are willing to lend money and who wants to borrow money and enables such participants to lend and borrow money through an online platform. These companies in turn, charge a small commission for their services.

POLITY

Question 1:

Which of the following nations was not recently removed from the list of developing nations by the United States Trade Representative?

Options:

- A. South Africa
- B. Indonesia
- C. India
- D. China

Answer: D

Explanation:

Under the WTO rules, any country can "self designate" itself as a developing country. But, United States Trade Representative (USTR) employed methodology that excludes countries which have per capita GNI above \$12,375 as per World Bank data, or are members of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), G20, classified as "high income" by the World Bank or account for more than 0.5% of global merchandise trade. So, India (along with other countries like Brazil, Indonesia, South Africa) was removed from the list of developing countries

Question 2:

Which of the following Indian states does not share its border with Myanmar?



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Options:

- A. Assam
- B. Nagaland
- C. Manipur
- D. Arunachal Pradesh

Answer: A**Explanation:**

India shares a long land border of over 1600 Km with Myanmar as well as a maritime boundary in the Bay of Bengal. Four north-eastern states viz. Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur and Mizoram share boundary with Myanmar.

Thus, it is geopolitically significant to India as it sits at the intersection of India's "Neighbourhood First" policy and "Act East" policy.

Question 3:

The Indian army carried out 'Operation Sunshine' in which of the following nations?

Options:

- A. Nepal
- B. Myanmar
- C. Sri Lanka
- D. Bhutan

Answer: B**Explanation:**

- In July 2019, India-Myanmar signed a landmark defence cooperation agreement. Post 2018, India and Myanmar armed forces have carried out two joint military operations, codenamed Operation Sunshine, to fight militants along the borders of Myanmar's Rakhine state.
- India-Myanmar also conducts a historic bilateral naval exercise, IMNEX to underline the growing significance of the Bay of Bengal.
- India also invited the Myanmar Army to participate in the India-led multilateral Milan naval exercise that occurs biennially in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- India also provides military training and conducts joint military exercises with the Myanmar Army such as the India-Myanmar Bilateral Military Exercise IMBAX.

Question 4:

India's 'Free Movement Regime' with Myanmar allows for which of the following?

Options:



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- A. Exchange of classified information about terrorists
- B. It allows the tribes living along the border to travel 16 km across the boundary without visa restrictions.
- C. It allows visa free movement of tourists from both the sides
- D. It allows truck drivers to move across the border without visa restrictions

Answer: B

Explanation:

Over the years, the India-Myanmar border has become the main conduit for the trafficking of arms and drugs from Myanmar.

Additionally, the cross-border movement of insurgents is another significant security challenge emanating across the India-Myanmar border.

India is therefore re-examining the Free Movement Regime (FMR), due to recent reports submitted to the Home Ministry stating that the smuggling of light arms, drugs and counterfeit currencies have been spotted along the border.

In order to facilitate free movement of the tribal people along the border of India and Myanmar, the mechanism of the free movement regime was introduced.

Free Movement Regime (FMR) allows the tribes living along the border to travel 16 km across the boundary without visa restrictions.

Question 5:

Which of the following is a landlocked nation?

- 1. Bhutan
- 2. Nepal
- 3. Myanmar
- 4. Kazakhstan

Which of these statements is correct?

Options:

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

Answer: B

Explanation:

Ineffective transit agreements, non-existent common guarantee mechanisms and insufficient transit harmonisation procedures place limits on regional trade flows. The BBIN MVA is a milestone in improved trade facilitation, promoting investment linkages among the member countries with a view to capitalising on potential bilateral and regional value chains.

The BBIN initiative has the potential to significantly change the dynamics of the existing trade related activities paving the way for greater market access for production centres in the sub-region. If the transport corridors transformed into economic corridors, it can potentially increase intra-regional trade within South Asia by almost 60% and with the rest of the world 30%.



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Having a multi-modal transportation network in the BBIN sub-region would be quite useful for landlocked Nepal and Bhutan.

Kazakhstan, the largest landlocked country, is located at the farthest distance from the oceans (about 3,750 km).

PT - HISTORY

Question 1. Consider the following statements:

1. Guru Gobind Singh began transformation of the Sikhs into a militant and fighting community.
2. Guru Gobind Singh joined the Mansabdari System of the Mughals.
3. Guru Gobind Singh waged constant war with the armies of Aurangzeb and hill rajas.

Select the correct code:

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

Ans. B.

Explanation:

- The transformation of the Sikhs into a militant, fighting community was begun by Guru Hargobind.
- Guru Gobind Singh founded Khalsa and under him the Sikhs became a political and military force in 1699.
- **The Battle of Chamkaur (1704)**, also known as Battle of Chamkaur Sahib, was a battle fought between the Khalsa, led by Guru Gobind Singh, and the coalition forces of the Mughals led by Wazir Khan under Aurangzeb. Guru Gobind Singh makes a reference to this battle in his victory letter Zafarnama.
- Bahadur Shah invited Guru Gobind Singh with his army to meet him in person in the Deccan region of India and offered Mansab. Guru joined Bahadur Shah's camp with 5000 Jat and 5000 Sawar.

Question 2. Who among the following leaders of the Revolt of 1857 managed to escape to Nepal?

1. Kunwar Singh
2. Nana Sahab
3. Begum Hazrat Mahal of Awadh
4. Bakht Khan.

Select the correct code:



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

Ans. D.

Explanation:

- **Nana Saheb** born as **Dhondu Pant**, was an Indian Peshwa of the Maratha empire, aristocrat and fighter, who led the rebellion in Cawnpore (Kanpur) during the 1857 uprising.
- As the adopted son of the exiled Maratha Peshwa Baji Rao II, Nana Saheb believed that he was entitled to a pension from the East India Company, but the underlying contractual issues are rather murky.
- The Company's refusal to continue the pension after his father's death, as well as what he perceived as high-handed policies, compelled him to revolt and seek independence from company rule in India.
- He forced the British garrison in Cawnpore to surrender, then executed the survivors, gaining control of Cawnpore for a few days. He later disappeared, after his forces were defeated by a British force that recaptured Cawnpore.
- He went to the Nepal Hills in 1859, where he is thought to have died.
- After the British annexed Awadh in 1856 and Nawab Wajid Ali Shah was exiled to Kolkata (then Calcutta), **the Begum Hazrat Mahal** led the rebel soldiers against the East India Company's Army from Lucknow. She placed her 14-year-old son Birjis Qadr on throne and fought to regain the territory lost to the British.
- For six months, she defended Lucknow from the British army. The people of Awadh supported her and she proclaimed independence from the British rule.
- After losing her battle, she migrated to **Nepal and** settled in Kathmandu, with support from Jung Bahadur Rana, the then powerful Prime Minister of the Himalayan Nation.
- She died in 1879 and a stamp was issued in her honour in 1984.



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Question 3: **Who was the monarch of Britain at the time of commencement of the Government of India Act, 1858?**

- (a) William IV
- (b) Victoria
- (c) Edward VII
- (d) George V

Ans. B.

Explanation:

- Queen Victoria was the successor of William IV.
- She remained Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland from 20 June 1837 until her death. She adopted the additional title of Empress of India on 1 May 1876. Known as the Victorian era.

Question 4. The Ulgulan was an uprising led by-

- a. Bonga Majhi.
- b. Sidhu and Kanhu.
- c. Birsa Munda.
- d. Tirut Singh.

ANS. C.

EXPLANATION:

- Birsa Munda led the Ulgulan or The Great Tumult in the south of Ranchi in 1899-1900, known as Tribal rebellion.
- In Hazaribagh, Bonga Majhi and Somra Majhi led a socio-religious reform movement along with Sanskritisation during the Civil disobedience movement.
- Sidhu and Kanhu were the leaders of Santhal Rebellion of 1855-56.
- Tirut Singh was one of the chiefs of the Khasi people in the early 19th century.

Question 5. Self-Respect Movement was launched by –



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- a. C.N Mudaliar.
- b. Dr. T. M Nair.
- c. Jyotiba Phule.
- d. E. V. Ramaswamy Naicker.

Ans. D.

Explanation:

- E.V. Ramaswamy Naicker or Periyar launched Self Respect Movement in 1925.
- It was ant-Brahmin crusade or caste movement.
- He popularised his ideas through a journal- **Kudi Arasu such as weddings without brahmin priests and forcible temple entry.**
- C. N Mudaliar, T M Nair and Thiagaraja Chettiar were the founders of the Justice Movement of 1915-16.

GEOGRAPHY

- 1) **Huntington disease (HD)** is a progressive genetic disorder. Consider the following statements on that :-
- (i) It affects the brain.
 - (ii) It occurs due to mutation of a specific gene..

Choose the correct alternative :-

- (a) only i
- (b) only ii
- (c) both
- (d) none

Answer c

Explanation :-

Huntington disease (HD): It is a progressive genetic disorder that affects the brain. It causes uncontrolled movements, impaired coordination of balance and movement, a decline in cognitive abilities, difficulty in concentrating and memory lapses, mood swings and personality changes. The cause of this disease is due to mutation in a gene called HTT. The main function of HTT genes is the



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production of a protein called Huntingtin. They provide the instruction for making the protein. The mutation of HTT gene gives faulty instructions and as a result the normal functioning of the brain is disrupted resulting in Huntington disease.

Recently, a team of scientists from National Centre for Cell Science (NCCS) in Pune led by Dr. Amitabha Majumdar unravelled that the pathogenic protein called the Huntingtin Protein causes decrease in overall protein production. They found that Huntingtin protein in a diseased person interfered with the protein production of the cells and how faulty information was sent to the brain. They are also the cause of the reduced level of protein production of a normal cell.

- 2) Consider the following statements on Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maandhan Yojana (**PM-KMY**) :-
- (i) It is a farmer pension scheme.
 - (ii) There is no provision of pension to the family after the death of farmer.
 - (iii) It shall be implemented all across India except Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, where it shall be implemented once proper data of this region is available.

Choose the correct alternative :-

- (a) i and ii
- (b) ii and iii
- (c) only i
- (d) i and iii

Answer c

Explanation :-

PM-KMY: It is Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maandhan Yojana which will provide monthly pension to farmers. Under this scheme, the farmers involved will get a monthly pension of Rs 3,000 for completing 60 years of age. In case of death of the farmer, his wife will get a monthly pension of Rs 1,500. Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurated the scheme after which the PM-KMY registration process has started across the country. He said that this scheme will be implemented in the entire country including Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. This scheme was launched as because despite working hard, the farmer does not earn enough. Therefore it was important to ensure social security. The Government have taken several measures to ensure better income and PM-KMY is another effort in this direction.

- 3) The 24th World Energy Congress was held in Abu Dhabi, at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre, United Arab Emirates (UAE) from 9-12 September 2019. It was held under the patronage of Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of UAE. Consider the following statements on that :-
- (i) World Energy Congress is a triennial event organized since 1924.
 - (ii) Its theme was 'Energy for Prosperity'.
 - (iii) It is an event by World Energy Council.



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Choose the correct alternative :-

- (a) i and ii
- (b) i and iii
- (c) ii and iii
- (d) i, ii and iii

Answer d

Explanation :-

WEC : WEC or the World Energy Congress is a triennial event and has been running since 1924. With over 150 countries represented, WEC is world's largest and most influential energy event that covers all aspects of energy agenda. It is a global flagship event of World Energy Council. It offers a unique platform for global energy leaders to explore new energy futures, new strategies and critical innovation areas. It enables dialogue amongst Ministers, CEOs, policy-makers and industry practitioners on critical developments in energy sector. The 24th World Energy Congress was held in Abu Dhabi, at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre, United Arab Emirates (UAE) from 9-12 September 2019. It was held under the patronage of Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of UAE. The theme of this year's 4-day World Energy Congress was 'Energy for Prosperity'. It also represents ambitious and dynamic energy transition of UAE. Its objective is to bring together international energy stakeholders including governments, academia and media, private and state corporations. This event welcomed more than 15,000 participants including 72 Ministers, 250 high-level speakers, 500 CEOs, 1000 media persons with 40,000 square-metre exhibition space that will cover entire energy spectrum.

- 4) Consider the following statements on international conference ANGAN (Augmenting Nature by Green Affordable New-habitat) :-
- (i) Its focus was on efficiency in energy sector.
 - (ii) It was organized by India and Germany in collaboration.

Choose the correct alternative :-

- (a) only i
- (b) only ii
- (c) both
- (d) none

Answer c

Explanation :-

ANGAN : A three-day international conference ANGAN (Augmenting Nature by Green Affordable New-habitat) focused on Energy Efficiency in Building Sector was held in New Delhi. Shri Abhay Bakre, DG, BEE and Shri Raj Pal, Economic Advisor, Ministry of Power, inaugurated the Conference in the presence of eminent experts of the field. The Conference was organized by the Bureau of Energy



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Efficiency (BEE), Ministry of Power, Government of India in collaboration with the GIZ under the Indo-German Technical Cooperation. BEE : The BEE is a statutory body under the Ministry of Power, Government of India that assists in developing policies and strategies with the primary objective of reducing the energy intensity. It coordinates with designated consumers, designated agencies, and other organizations to identify, and utilize the existing resources and infrastructure, in performing the functions assigned under the Energy Conservation Act. Speakers, Delegates, Experts and Policy Makers across 16 countries participated in the event. The participants from Central and State local authorities as well as Technology providers and Experts, practicing Architects and University Students were also present.

5) **What is CHC Farm Machinery :-**

- (a) It is the recent multi tasking set of machines launched for farmers.
- (b) it is specialized type of tractor/commune launched for farmers.
- (c) **It is multilingual mobile app launched for farmers.**
- (d) It is organized finance support for farmers to buy related machines.

Answer c

Explanation :-

CHC Farm Machinery: It is Multilingual Mobile App launched for farmers. The Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Purushottam Rupala recently launched a multilingual mobile app 'CHC Farm Machinery' during the National Conference on crop residue Management for farmers in Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi. CHC Farm Machinery Mobile App will allow farmers to avail custom hiring services of CHCs located in a radius of 50 km. It will connect the farmers with Custom Hiring Service Centers in their area. Farmers can download this mobile app on any android phone from Google Play Store. Farmers can get affordable access to cutting-edge technology at their doorsteps with the help of this mobile app. The issue of crop residue burning has become a major environmental problem causing health issues as well as contributing to global warming. There are some sustainable techniques like Composting, biochar production and mechanization that can help to curtail the issue while retaining the nutrients present in the crop residue in the soil. However, some steps by the government of India have taken to curtail this problem. Several measures and campaigns designed to promote sustainable management methods such as converting crop residue into energy have also started. In recent years, the alarming rise of air pollution levels caused by crop residue burning in the city of Delhi and other northern areas in India observed.