

EKLAVYA 360°PRELIMS PROGRAM – TEST 9 Explanation

QUESTION) International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime mission has been formed to strengthen criminal justice systems and provide coordinated support at national, regional and international level to combat wildlife and forest crime. Which of the following organizations are the part of it?

- (1) INTERPOL
- (2) World Bank
- (3) United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.
- (4) Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

Codes:

- (A) Only 4
- (B) 3 and 4
- (C) 1, 2 and 4
- (D) All

Answer: (D)

Exp: The ICCWC brings together:

- Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES);
- INTERPOL;
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC);
- World Bank;
- World Customs Organization (WCO).



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The ICCWC seeks to ensure that perpetrators of serious wildlife crimes face a formidable and coordinated response, departing from the present situation where the risk of detection and punishment is all too low.

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QUESTION) Which of the following statement related to International Plant Protection Convention is incorrect?

- (A) It aims at fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of plant genetic resources.
- (B) The convention provides the mechanisms to develop the International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs).
- (C) The Secretariat of the IPPC is hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).
- (D) It aims to protect world plant resources, including cultivated and wild plants by preventing the introduction and spread of plant pests.

Answer: (A)

Exp: The IPPC aims to protect world plant resources, including cultivated and wild plants by preventing the introduction and spread of plant pests and promoting the appropriate measures for their control. The convention provides the mechanisms to develop the International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs), and to help countries to implement the ISPMs and the other obligations under the IPPC, by facilitating the national capacity development, national reporting and dispute settlement. The Secretariat of the IPPC is hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

QUESTION) Consider the following statements about Agasthyamala biosphere reserve:

- (1) Biosphere Reserve area falls in the Malabar rainforests and is one of the noted hotspot in the Western Ghats.
- (2) It includes the Indian eco-regions of moist deciduous forests.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (A) Only 1
- (B) Only 2
- (C) Both 1 and 2

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(D) None

Answer: (A)

Exp: The Agasthyamala Biosphere Reserve has recently been included in UNESCO's List of World Biosphere Reserve Network. The area falls in the Malabar rainforests and is one of the noted hotspot in the Western Ghats. It covers about 3500 sq kms and is part of different districts of Tamil Nadu and Kerala. Agastya Mala, the peak after which the reserve is named, rises up to almost 1868 metres above sea level, in Thiruvananthapuram. There are many endemic and endangered species of flora and fauna in the reserve including endangered Nilgiri Tahr. It includes the Indian eco regions of moist deciduous forests, montane rainforests and Shola forests and grasslands. There are three wildlife sanctuaries within the reserve - Shendurney, Peppara, and Neyyar.

QUESTION) Which of the following statements is NOT correct?

- (A) If there was no CO₂ in the atmosphere; the earth's temperature would be higher than the present.
- (B) Stratification is more common in tropical rain forest.
- (C) Ultra-violet light causes destruction of hydrogen bonds between complementary DNA strands.
- (D) Minamata disease is due to pollution of Industrial waste mercury into fishing water.

Answer: (A)

Exp: If there was no CO₂ then the temperature would have been lower than the present.

QUESTION) Consider the following statements about Dissolved oxygen and Biological Oxygen Demand:

- (1) Higher amount of wastes decreases the dissolved oxygen content of water.
- (2) Higher value of BOD indicates high level of microorganisms in water.



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(3) BOD is limited to biodegradable materials thus reliable for measuring pollution load.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (A) Only 3
- (B) 1 and 2
- (C) All
- (D) Only 2

Answer: (B)

Exp: Biochemical oxygen demand (BOD, also called biological oxygen demand) is the amount of dissolved oxygen needed (i.e., demanded) by aerobic biological organisms to break down organic material present in a given water sample at certain temperature over a specific time period. Dissolved oxygen (DO) is the amount of oxygen that is present in the water.

The higher value of BOD indicates low DO content of water. Since BOD is limited to biodegradable materials Therefore, it is not a reliable method of measuring pollution load in water.

The higher value of BOD indicates low DO content of water. Since BOD is limited to biodegradable materials Therefore, it is not a reliable method of measuring pollution load in water.

QUESTION) Which of the following statements is/are true about Biological Diversity Act, 2002?

- (1) This act was brought to realise the objectives of Bonn Convention.
- (2) It aims at fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources is one of its objective.
- (3) This act establishes two-tier structure at national & state level only to regulate access to the biological resources.

Codes:



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- (A) 1 and 2
- (B) Only 2
- (C) Only 3
- (D) All

Answer: (B)

Exp: Biological Diversity Act, 2002 was brought to realise the objective of Convention on Biological Diversity.

Bonn convention is for Convention on Migratory Species.

Objectives are:

- Fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources.
- Biological diversity conservation.
- Sustainable use of its components.

This act establishes three tier structure at national (NBA), state (SBB) and local (BMC).

QUESTION) Identify the National park having following characteristics:

- (1) This national park lies in the Central Crystalline belt of the Greater Himalayas.
- (2) The park is bounded on the north by the banks of Indus River and parts of Zaskar Range.
- (3) It is majorly protecting Snow leopards.

Choose the correct options:

- (A) Dachigam National Park



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- (B) Hemis National Park
- (C) Pin Valley National park
- (D) Kishtwar National park

Answer: (B)

Exp: Hemis National Park (or Hemis High Altitude National Park) is a high altitude national park in the eastern Ladakh region of the state of Jammu and Kashmir in India. World famous for being the best place to see the snow leopard in the wild, it is believed to have the highest density of snow leopards of any protected area in the world.

QUESTION) Which of the following pair(s) related to environmental conventions is/are correct?

- (1) Rotterdam Convention: International trade of certain hazardous chemicals.
- (2) Bonn Convention: Migratory Species.
- (3) Stockholm Convention: Persistent Organic Pollutants.

Codes:

- (A) 1 and 2
- (B) Only 2
- (C) Only 3
- (D) All

Answer: d)

Exp: Rotterdam Convention promote responsibility among parties about international trade of certain hazardous chemicals. It ensures environmentally sound use of hazardous chemicals.

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Bonn Convention is a convention on Migratory Species who travel a range of countries. It covers the source and destination countries. It ensures they are protected through out their journey.

Stockholm Convention is a convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants. These pollutants remain for a long time in atmosphere and are toxic in nature.

QUESTION) Which of the following statement related to Renewable Purchase Obligation is correct?

- (A) It is the obligation mandated by the National Green Tribunal (NGT) and is applicable to power distribution companies.
- (B) It is the obligation imposed by law on power distribution companies to either buy electricity generated by 'green' sources, or buy, in lieu of that, 'renewable energy certificates (RECs)' from the market.
- (C) It is tradable, non-tangible energy commodities that represent that 1 megawatt-hour (MWh) of electricity was generated from an eligible renewable energy.
- (D) None of the above.

Answer: (B)

Exp: Renewable Purchase Obligation refers to the obligation imposed by law on some entities to either buy electricity generated by specified 'green' sources, or buy, in lieu of that, 'renewable energy certificates (RECs)' from the market. The 'obligated entities' are mostly electricity distribution companies and large consumers of power. RECs are issued to companies that produce green power, who opt not to sell it at a preferable tariff to distribution companies.

QUESTION) Place the following renewable energy sources in terms of efficiency (percentage of energy input retained when converting fuel to electricity):

- (1) Wind



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(2) Geothermal

(3) Solar

(4) Biomass

Codes:

(A) 1>2>3>4

(B) 1>2>4>3

(C) 1>3>2>4

(D) 1>4>3>2

Answer: A

QUESTION) Consider the following statements with respect to gasohol:

(1) Low ethanol blends from E5 to E25 are known as gasohol.

(2) Gasohol is used as a fuel for running cars and buses.

(3) China is the leading country in the manufacture of ethanol as a fuel.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(A) Only 1

(B) 1 and 2

(C) 1 and 3

(D) All

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Answer: B

It is a mixture of gasoline and alcohol. Gasohol is used as a fuel in Brazil for running cars and buses. This can be used as a fuel in existing internal combustion engine, with little or no adjustment.

Low ethanal blends from E5 to E25 are also known as gasohol.

Brazil is the leading country in the manufacture of ethanol for fuel. This country possesses few fossil-fuel resources, but it provides optimum conditions for the growth of large quantities of biomass from the fermentation of sugarcane. In Brazil, a new abundant source of fermentable biomass is Cassava or manioc, a root crop growing in large quantities throughout the country.

QUESTION) With reference to the social forestry consider the following statements:

- (1) Social forestry aims at supplying goods and services to meet the increasing resource demands.
- (2) Social forestry aims at wasteland management by encouraging forestry land use on slope and upstream.
- (3) Social forestry is done on government land in rural area to increase forest cover.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (A) Only 3 (B) 1 and 2 (C) 1 and 3 (D) All

Answer: B

Social Forestry is meant for supplying goods and services to meet the ever increasing demand for firewood, fodder, food, fertilizer, fiber, timber, medicine, etc. or for industrial purposes such as timber, plywood, matchwood, fiber board, paper and pulp, rayon, etc. The main idea is to remove pressure on natural forests for these requirements. Social forestry is based on public and common land (private) to produce firewood, fodder, fruit and small timber for rural people. The programme should be conducted by a co-operative system including farmers, tribals, panchayats and NGOs (nongovernment organizations), etc. Degraded lands should be utilized for social forestry for firewood, whereby the quality of land improves in course of time. Massive afforestation should be done involving multipurpose species of plants/shrubs so that every village/ town/ city is able to meet its requirements for firewood, fodder and small

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timber. Production/Commercial Forestry is intended entirely for commercial purposes to meet the needs of the forest-based industry. Fallow lands, not used for agriculture, grazing lands, etc. can be used for raising such plantations.

QUESTION) Which of the following climatic terminologies is/are true?

- (1) Carbon Credit: Reductions and trading in greenhouse emissions made at another location.
- (2) Carbon Offsetting: Right to emit one tonne of carbon or carbon dioxide equivalent.
- (3) Geo Engineering: technique to mitigate climate change by hoisting parasols or placing mirror in space.

Codes:

- (A) 1 and 2
- (B) 2 and 3
- (C) Only 3
- (D) All

Answer: C

Carbon Credit: It's a tradable certificate exchanged by different organisation. It helps to manage their overall carbon emissions. Right to emit one tonne of carbon or carbon dioxide equivalent.

Carbon Offsetting: It is based on certain activities done at another location which reduces need for carbon emissions like setting up wind farm, etc. Reductions in greenhouse emissions made at another location.

Geo Engineering: It is based on engineering technique done to mitigate climate change. For example: Hoisting parasols or placing mirror in space.



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QUESTION) Which of the following is/are true about organic farming?

- (1) GM crops are allowed in organic farming.
- (2) Use of fertiliser is strictly prohibited.
- (3) Arunachal Pradesh has been declared as the first organic state of India.

Codes:

- (A) 1 and 2
- (B) 1 and 3
- (C) 2 and 3
- (D) None

Answer: D

Sikkim is declared as first organic state of India.

GM crops are not allowed in organic farming along with pesticides, growth regulators, etc.

Use of fertilizer is limited but not strictly prohibited.

QUESTION) Which of the following activities are responsible for the decrement in the economic output from inland fishery?

- (1) Discharge of untreated effluents from the industrial units and urban silage which destroy the fish.
- (2) Construction of dams prevents the free migration of fish to their usual breeding and feeding grounds.
- (3) Deforestation and frequent flooding due to poor watershed management.

Codes:



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(A) 1 and 2

(B) Only 1

(C) 1 and 3

(D) All

Answer: D

The reasons are:

- Danger to revering fisheries because of growing river pollution Discharge of untreated effluents from the industrial units and urban silage destroy the fish.
- Construction of dams, reservoirs prevents the free migration of fish to their usual breeding and feeding grounds and thus adversely affects the stock of fish in rivers.
- Due to above mentioned reasons many fish men dependent on river and lake for their livelihood hove to leave their occupation and became landless.

QUESTION) Which of the following is not the objective of the Street Light National Programme?

(A) To mitigate climate change by implementing energy efficient CFL based street lighting.

(B) Reduce energy consumption in lighting which helps DISCOMs to manage peak demand.

(C) Enhance municipal services of providing street lights.

(D) To replace conventional street lights with energy efficient LED lights

Answer: A

: Objectives of Street Light National Programme:

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- Mitigate climate change by implementing energy efficient LED based street lighting.
- Reduce energy consumption in lighting which helps DISCOMs to manage peak demand.
- Provide a sustainable service model that obviates the need for upfront capital investment as well as additional revenue expenditure to pay for procurement of LED lights.
- Enhance municipal services at no upfront capital cost of municipalities.

QUESTION) As per government notification match the industries with colour code for pollution:

- (1) White Industries : Organic Manure.
- (2) Red Industries : Automobile Servicing, Repairing.
- (3) Orange Industries : Oil & Gas Extraction.
- (4) Green Industries : Ayurvedic Medicines.

Codes:

- (A) 1 and 2
- (B) 1, 2 and 4
- (C) 1, 3 and 4
- (D) 1 and 4

Answer: D

White Industries <Green Industries<Orange Industries<Red Industries : increasing order of polluting capacity

Some examples:

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- White - Air conditioners, bicycles, CFL lamp, Organic manure, etc.
- Green - Aluminium Utensils, Distilled water, flour mills, Ayurvedic medicines,
- Orange - Dry cell battery , food processing, glass manufacturing, Automobile servicing
- Red - Lead acid battery, cement, oil & gas extraction, pharmaceuticals.

QUESTION) With reference to mining and minerals which of the following environmental impacts is/ are correct?

- (1) Jadugada mine, Jharkhand causes the radioactive pollution.
- (3) Kuremukh mine, Karnataka is suffering from underground fire.

Codes:

- (A) 1 and 2
- (B) 2 and 3
- (C) Only 1
- (D) All of the above

Answer: C

Mining and processing of minerals involve major environmental concerns including disturbance of land, air pollution from dust and smelter emissions and water pollution from disrupted aquifers. Six major mines are known to cause severe environmental problems.

- Jadugoda Uranium Mine, Jharkhand: Exposing local area and the population to radioactive hazards.
- Jharia Coal Mines, Jharkhand: Underground fire causing land subsidence and displacement of people.

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- Sukinder Chromite Mine, Orissa: Seeping of hexavalent chromium into river posing serious health hazard. Chromium Cr+6 (hexavalent) is highly toxic.
- Kudremukh Iron Ore Mine, Karnataka: Causing river pollution and threat to biodiversity.
- East-Coast Bauxite Mine, Orissa: Land encroachment and rehabilitation issue.
- North-Eastern Coal Fields, Assam: Very high sulphur contamination of groundwater

QUESTION) With reference to the Schedule Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, consider the following potential tools.

(1) This act provides for the restitution of deprived forest rights to only an individual for his cultivated land in forestland.

(2) Right to intellectual property related to biodiversity.

(3) National Parks and Sanctuaries are also included for recognition of rights.

(4) State government has been designated as the competent authority for determining the nature and extent of forest rights.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans) b Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect. Forests Right Act, 2006 provides for the restitution of deprived forest rights across India, including both individual rights to cultivated land in forestland and community rights over common property resources.

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Statement 4 is incorrect. Gram sabha has been designated as the competent authority for initiating the process of determining the nature and extent of individual or community forest right or both that may be given to the forest dwelling Schedule Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers.

QUESTION) With reference to ‘Eco Sensitive Zone’ (ESA), consider the following statements.

- (1) ESA is the area that is declared under the Environment Protection Act, 1986.
- (2) The purpose of the declaration of ESA is to prohibit all kinds of human activities in these zones except agriculture.
- (3) The same criteria of ESA have been used by the government to declare No Development Zones.

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

- (A) 1 and 3 only
- (B) 1 and 2 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

Ans) a

Explanation: Statement 2 is incorrect. The section 3(2)(v) of the Act, says that Central Government can restrict areas in which any industries, operations or processes or class of industries, operations or processes shall not be carried out or shall be carried out subject to certain safeguards.

Besides the section 3(2)(v) of this act says that central government can prohibit or restrict the location of industries and carrying on certain operations or processes on the basis of considerations like the biological diversity of an area, maximum allowable limits of concentration of pollutants for an area, environmentally compatible land use, and proximity to protected areas.

Statement 1 and 3 are correct. The Environment Protection Act, 1986 does not mention the word “Eco-sensitive Zones”.

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The above two clauses [section 3(2)(v) and section 3(2)(v)] have been effectively used by the government to declare Eco- Sensitive Zones or Ecologically Fragile Areas (EFA). The same criteria have been used by the government to declare No Development Zones.

QUESTION) Identify the national park based on below features.

- (1) It is a part of world's 'hottest hotspots' of biological diversity.
- (2) It is home to unique, threatened and endangered species like the lion-tailed macaques
- (3) Rivers Tunga, Bhadra and Netravati, originate from the heart of this National Park.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- (A)Kudremukh National Park
- (B)Bandipur National Park
- (C)Mudumalai National Park
- (D)Silent Valley National Park

Ans) a

Explanation: The Kudremukh National Park in the Western Ghats is a part of the world's 38 'hottest hotspots' of biological diversity, a UNESCO world heritage site.

It is more than 630 sq km area of montane grasslands and tropical rainforests form the largest protected block within the Western Ghats.

The park is home to unique, threatened and endangered biodiversity including lion-tailed macaques, tigers, Malabar civets and great pied hornbills.

The rivers Tunga, Bhadra and Netravati, which originate from the heart of the park, sustain millions of rural people in south India.

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The literary meaning of kuduremukh is 'horse face', and is in reference to the appearance of a mountain peak located within the park.

The Park nurtures a diverse range of flora and fauna. There are highly dense forests rich in varieties of wild life like as tiger, leopard, wild dog, Malabar giant squirrel, common langur, sloth bear, gaur, sambar, spotted deer, barking deer and the sloth bear.

The river bhadra and the tunga freely flow through the parklands. Kadambi waterfalls is also the point of interest for the travelers.

QUESTION) Blue Green Algae is being promoted as bio Fertilizers. Which of the below is true regarding them in this context

- (A) They induce production of enzymes in the crop plants which helps bind atmospheric nitrogen to Nitrates
- (B) They directly convert atmospheric nitrogen into a form that the crop plants can absorb readily.
- (C) They induce the roots of crop plants to absorb the soil nitrates in larger quantities.
- (D) Atmospheric methane is converted by them to ammonia which the crop plants can absorb readily.

Ans) b

Explanation: A Bio fertilizer (also bio- fertilizer) is a substance which contains living microorganisms which, when applied to seeds, plant surfaces, or soil, colonizes the rhizosphere or the interior of the plant and promotes growth by increasing the supply or availability of primary nutrients to the host plant. Bio- fertilizers add nutrients through the natural processes of nitrogen fixation, solubilizing phosphorus, and stimulating plant growth through the synthesis of growth-promoting substances. Since a bio-fertilizer is technically living, it can symbiotically associate with plant roots. Involved microorganisms could readily and safely convert complex organic material into simple compounds, so that they are easily taken up by the plants.

Cyanobacteria/Blue green algae can fix atmospheric nitrogen in anaerobic conditions by means of specialized cells called heterocysts.

Heterocyst-forming species are specialized for nitrogen fixation and are able to fix nitrogen gas into ammonia (NH_3), nitrites (NO_2^-) or nitrates (NO_3^-), which can be absorbed by plants and converted to protein and nucleic acids.

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QUESTION) Which among the following statements is incorrectly stated?

- (A) Alpha diversity refers to diversity within a particular area or ecosystem.
- (B) Food chain is more comprehensive than food web in displaying possible transfers of energy.
- (C) Food chain implies a simple isolated relationship which seldom occurs in an ecosystem.
- (D) None of the above

Ans) b

Explanation: A food web consists of many food chains. A food chain only follows just one path as animals find food. A food web shows the many different paths plants and animals are connected. Thus, food web is more comprehensive.

QUESTION) The 'Forest Carbon Partnership Facility' is related to which among the following?

- (A) Montreaux Record
- (B) Man and Biosphere
- (C) REDD+
- (D) Wetland International

Ans) c

Explanation: The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility is a global partnership of governments, businesses, civil society, and Indigenous Peoples focused on reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, forest carbon stock conservation, the sustainable management of forests, and the enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries (activities commonly referred to as REDD+).

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Some initiatives assisting countries that are engaged in REDD+ include the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility, Norway's International Climate and Forest Initiative, the Global Environment Facility, Australia's International Forest Carbon Initiative, the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, and the Green Climate Fund.

QUESTION) How does the National Green Tribunal help in protecting Environment and Ecology?

- (1) Disposing off cases relating to environment protection
- (2) Enforcing legal rights relating to environment
- (3) Providing relief and compensation for damages to persons a property on environment related issues.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below

- (A)1 only
- (B)2 only
- (C)1 and 2 only
- (D)1, 2 and 3

Ans) d

Explanation: The National Green Tribunal has been established under the National Green Tribunal Act 2010 for effective and expeditious disposal of cases relating to environmental protection and conservation of forests and other natural resources including enforcement of any legal right relating to environment and giving relief and compensation for damages to persons and property and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. It is a specialized body equipped with the necessary expertise to handle environmental disputes involving multi-disciplinary issues. The Tribunal shall not be bound by the procedure laid down under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, but shall be guided by principles of natural justice.

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The Tribunal's dedicated jurisdiction in environmental matters shall provide speedy environmental justice and help reduce the burden of litigation in the higher courts. The Tribunal is mandated to make and endeavour for disposal of applications or appeals finally within 6 months of filing of the same. Initially, the NGT is proposed to be set up at five places of sittings and will follow circuit procedure for making itself more accessible. New Delhi is the Principal Place of Sitting of the Tribunal and Bhopal, Pune, Kolkata and Chennai shall be the other 4 place of sitting of the Tribunal.

QUESTION) With reference to Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) of the Kyoto Protocol, consider the following statements

- (1) The CDM allows emission-reduction projects in developing countries to earn certified emission reduction (CER) credits.
- (2) Such CERs cannot be traded and sold, and used by industrialized countries to meet a part of their emission reduction targets.
- (3) It is the main source of income for the UNFCCC Adaptation Fund.

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

- (A) 2 only
- (B) 1 and 3 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) None of the above

Ans) a

Explanation: Statement 2 is incorrect. Certified Emission Reduction (CER) can be held by governmental and private entities on electronic accounts with the UN.

CERs can be purchased from the primary market (purchased from an original party that makes the reduction) or secondary market (resold from a marketplace).

So, such CERs can be traded and sold, and used by industrialized countries to meet a part of their emission reduction targets.



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QUESTION) A Business A1 in a developed country is not able to reduce 100 tonnes of its CO₂ emissions in the short term. At the same time, a community in a developing country could swap from carbon intensive kerosene to solar panels but they can't afford the solar panels.

Which of the following mitigation strategy/strategies would work in above case?

- (1) Carbon Credit
- (2) Carbon Offsetting

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Ans) b

Explanation: Carbon credit would not help in this case because, business has to only reduce the 100 tonnes of its CO₂ emission. Here company not needed a permit to emit GHGs in its own country.

- (1) Carbon Credit is a tradable certificate or permit representing the right to emit one tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent.

How does carbon credit help?

Countries which are signatories to the Kyoto protocol under the UNFCCC have laid down gas emission norms for their companies to be met by 2012. In such cases, a company has two ways to reduce emission.

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- (1) Company can reduce the GHG (Green House Gases) by adopting new technology to attain the new norms for emission of gases.
- (2) Company can tie up with developing nations and help them set up new technology that is eco-friendly. This credit becomes a permit for the company to emit GHGs in its own country.
- (2) Carbon Offsetting are credits for reductions in greenhouse gas emission made at another location, such as wind farms which create renewable energy need for fossil fuel powered energy.

QUESTION) With reference to the REDD+ programme, consider the following statements.

- (1) It is a collaborative programme of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, UNDP and UNEP.
- (2) The incentives so received from REDD+ to India, would be passed on to the local communities involved in the protection and management of the forest.
- (3) It includes incentives for positive elements of conservation and sustainable management of forest.

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

- (A) 1 and 3 only
- (B) 1 and 2 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

Ans) c

Explanation: Statement 1 is incorrect. REDD+ is a voluntary climate change mitigation approach that has been developed by Parties to the UNFCCC.

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It aims to incentivize developing countries to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, conserve forest carbon stocks, sustainably manage forests and enhance forest carbon stocks.

REDD+ multilaterals include the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility and Forest Investment Program, hosted by The World Bank. Whereas, the UN-REDD Programme is a collaborative programme of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and harnesses the technical expertise of these UN agencies.

QUESTION) 'Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee' (GEAC) is under the aegis of

- (A) The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986
- (B) The Wildlife Protection Act, 1972
- (C) The Water (Prevention and Control of pollution) Act, 1974
- (D) The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980

Ans) a

Explanation: Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC)

The Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) is the apex body constituted in the Ministry of Environment and Forests under 'Rules for Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Microorganisms/Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells 1989', under the Environment Protection Act, 1986. The Rules of 1989 also define five competent authorities i.e.

- (1) The Institutional Biosafety Committees (IBSC),
- (2) Review Committee of Genetic Manipulation (RCGM),
- (3) Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC),
- (4) State Biotechnology Coordination Committee (SBCC)

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(5) District Level Committee (DL (C)) for handling of various aspects of the rules.

For approval of activities involving large scale use of hazardous microorganisms and recombinants in research and industrial production from the environmental angle.

The GEAC is also responsible for approval of proposals relating to release of genetically engineered organisms and products into the environment including experimental field trials (Biosafety Research Level trial-I and II known as BRL-I and BRL-II).

QUESTION) How do mangroves function as a safety hedge, during natural disasters like the Tsunami?

- (1) The mangrove trees do not get uprooted by storms and tides because of their extensive roots.
- (2) The mangroves provide medicine which people are in need of after any natural disaster.
- (3) The mangrove trees are tall with dense canopies and serve as an excellent shelter during a tsunami.
- (4) The mangroves swap separate human settlements from the sea by a wide zone in which people neither live nor venture out.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Ans) a

Explanation: Statement 1 is correct.

Mangrove is a salt tolerant plant, grows in tropical and sub-tropical inter-tidal region rainfall between 1000-3000 mm

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Temperature ranging between 26-35° C.

Mangrove adaptations :

- (1) Pneumatophores: Aerial roots above ground. Plant can breathe air in waterlogged soil
- (2) Buttress roots: Root grows from directly stem, above ground, to support the tree.
- (3) Stilt roots (Below water/land): They uphold the mangrove against tides, strong winds and tropical storms.
- (4) Vivipary: Instead of germinating externally from a seed, Mangroves reproduce via buds (embryos).

Because of this above adoptions, mangroves trees do not get uprooted by storms and tides because of their extensive roots.

QUESTION) Recognising the potential and possibilities in the fisheries sector, Government of India has envisaged a program named 'Blue Revolution' to unlock the country's latent potential through an integrated approach. Consider the following statements regarding the 'Blue Revolution':

- (1) The Blue Revolution, in its scope and reach, focuses on creating an enabling environment for an integrated and holistic development and management of fisheries for the socioeconomic development of the fishers and fish farmers.
- (2) Greater emphasis will be on infrastructure with an equally strong focus on management and conservation of the resources through technology transfer to increase the income of the fishers and fish farmers.

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

- (A) Only 1
- (B) Only 2
- (C) Both 1 and 2
- (D) Neither 1 nor 2

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Ans: C

Exp: Recognising the potential and possibilities in the fisheries sector, Government of India has envisaged a program named “Blue Revolution” to unlock the country’s latent potential through an integrated approach.

The Blue Revolution, in its scope and reach, focuses on creating an enabling environment for an integrated and holistic development and management of fisheries for the socioeconomic development of the fishers and fish farmers. Thrust areas have been identified for enhancing fisheries production from 10.79 mmt (2014-15) to 15 mmt in 2020-21.

Greater emphasis will be on infrastructure with an equally strong focus on management and conservation of the resources through technology transfer to increase the income of the fishers and fish farmers. Productivity enhancement shall also be achieved through employing the best global innovations and integration of various production oriented activities such as the production of quality fish seeds, Cost effective feed and adoption of technology etc.

QUESTION) One of the world’s largest nesting grounds of Olive Ridley sea turtles are getting destroyed due to shrinking coastal space.

Consider the following statements regarding the Olive Ridley sea turtles engendered status:

- (1) Olive Ridley sea turtle has found a place in Schedule – I of Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 (amended 1991).
- (2) The sea turtle is protected under the ‘Migratory Species Convention’ but not CITES (Convention of International Trade on Wildlife Flora and Fauna).
- (3) All the species of sea turtles in the coastal water of Odisha are listed as “endangered” as per IUCN Red Data Book.

Which of the above given statements is correct?

- (A) 1 and 2
- (B) 2 and 3

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(C)1 and 3

(D)All of the above

Ans: C

Exp: Olive Ridley sea turtle has found a place in Schedule – I of Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 (amended 1991). All the species of sea turtles in the coastal water of Odisha are listed as “endangered” as per IUCN Red Data Book.

The sea turtle is protected under the ‘Migratory Species Convention’ and CITES (Convention on International Trade on Wildlife Flora and Fauna). India is a signatory nation to all these conventions.

Gahirmatha Marine Sanctuary is a marine wildlife sanctuary located in Odisha is very famous for its nesting beach for olive ridley sea turtles. It is the one of world’s most important nesting beach for turtles. The ‘Homing’ characteristics of the Ridley sea turtles make them more prone to a mass casualty.

QUESTION) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) analysed the oil spill accident resulting from a collision off the coast of Tamil Nadu. Consider the following statements regarding the CPCB:

- (1) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is a statutory organisation.
- (2) CPCB was established under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981
- (3) It serves as a field formation and also provides technical services to the Ministry of Environment and Forests of the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

Which of the following statements is correct?

(A)1 and 2

(B)1 and 3

(C)2 and 3

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(D)1, 2 and 3

Ans: B

Exp: The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is a statutory organisation constituted in 1974 under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. Further, CPCB was entrusted with the powers and functions under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

It serves as a field formation and also provides technical services to the Ministry of Environment and Forests of the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

Principal Functions of the CPCB are as follows:

- (i) To promote cleanliness of streams and wells in different areas of the States by prevention, control and abatement of water pollution, and
- (ii) To improve the quality of air and to prevent, control, or abate air pollution in the country.

QUESTION) Consider the following statements:

(1)Altitude sickness occurs at higher altitudes due to lower percentage of oxygen in the atmosphere

(2)Acclimatisation, or homeostasis, refers to any of the numerous gradual, long-term responses of an organism to changes in its environment

Which of the statements above is/are correct?

(A)Only 1

(B)Only 2

(C)Both 1 and 2

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d. Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: D

Exp: “At sea level, because air is compressible, the weight of all that air above us compresses the air around us, making it denser. As you go up a mountain, the air becomes less compressed and is therefore thinner. The important effect of this decrease in pressure is this: in a given volume of air, there are fewer molecules present. This is really just another way of saying that the pressure is lower. The percentage of those molecules that are oxygen is exactly the same: 21%. The problem is that there are fewer molecules of everything present, including oxygen. So although the percentage of oxygen in the atmosphere is the same, the thinner air means there is less oxygen to breathe.” Homeostasis: The numerous sudden changes that evoke rapid and short-term responses via the nervous and hormonal systems are not examples of acclimatization. An individual organism can regulate its internal processes rapidly to sustain itself within the usual range of environmental changes that it encounters hourly or daily. But this rapid regulation, or homeostasis, is limited in its operation to a small range of environmental variations.

QUESTION) Who is the author of the book titled “The Culture Heritage of Trans Himalayas Kinnaur”?

- (A) Aswin Sanghi
- (B) Arundhati Roy
- (C) Arving Adiga
- (D) P.S. Nagi Loktus

Ans: D

EXP: The book titled “The Culture Heritage of Trans Himalayas-Kinnaur” has been authored by P.S. NagiLoktus. It is a study of the cultural heritage of the trans-Himalayan area of Himachal Pradesh, especially Kinnaur that involves documentation of traditional institutions like temples, monasteries, Bon chos, artefacts, forts and old dialects of various ethnic groups.



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QUESTION) Assertion: In a food chain members of successive higher levels are fewer in number.

Reason: Number of organisms at any trophic level depends upon the availability of organisms which serve as food at the lower level.

- (A) Both Assertion and Reason are true and Reason is the correct explanation of the Assertion.
- (B) Both Assertion and Reason are true but Reason is not the correct explanation of the Assertion.
- (C) Assertion is true, but Reason is false.
- (D) Assertion is false, but Reason is true

Answer: C

QUESTION) Consider the following statements

- (1) Carbon dioxide dissolves more easily in cold water than in warm water.
- (2) Land plants and marine phytoplankton take up about the same amounts of carbon dioxide as each other.
- (3) Marine phytoplanktons grow much faster than land plants.

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

- (A) 1 and 2
- (B) 2 and 3
- (C) 1 and 3
- (D) All the above

Answer: D

QUESTION) Consider the following statements regarding ecological succession

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- (1) Primary succession is the series of community changes which occur on an entirely new habitat which has never been colonized before.
- (2) Secondary succession is the series of community changes which take place on a previously colonized, but disturbed or damaged habitat.

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

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

Ans: D

EXP: both are correct.

QUESTION) In the context of ecosystem productivity, marine upwelling zones are important as they increase the marine productivity by bringing the:

- (1) Decomposer microorganisms to the surface.
- (2)Nutrients to the surface.
- (3)Bottom-dwelling organisms to the surface.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A)1 and 2
- (B)Only 2
- (C)2 and 3



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(D)Only 3

Ans: B

Exp: Upwelling brings nutrient-rich water towards the ocean surface, replacing the warmer, usually nutrient-depleted surface water. This is to do with the Phytoplankton's and nothing to do with the decomposer microorganisms.

QUESTION) Which of the following statement incorrect?

(A)Marshes are often dominated by grasses, rushes or reeds.

(B)If woody plants are present marshes tend to be low-growing shrubs.

(C)The difference with Bog And fen is that a Fen is served by both groundwater and rainfall where as bog is served by rainfall only.

(D)Bog is rich in nutrients whereas FEN is slightly acidic due to less nutrients

Ans: D

EXP: Fen is acidic because it is served by both groundwater as well as rainfall but rich in nutrients whereas bog isn't nutrient rich.

QUESTION) Bio-diesel is being used as a diesel additive to reduce vehicle emissions or in its pure form to run a vehicle.

Consider the following statements related to the properties of Bio-diesel:

(1) It has lower cetane ratings thus reduces fuel system wear.

(2) It has a high boiling point and low vapour pressure.

(3) The flash point of biodiesel is higher than the gasoline.

Which of the statements given above are correct?



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- (A) Only 1 & 2
- (B) Only 2 & 3
- (C) Only 1 & 3
- (D) All of the above

Answer: B

QUESTION) Consider the following statements about the National Green Tribunal (NGT).

- (1) The National Green Tribunal has been established for effective and expeditious disposal of cases relating to environmental protection and conservation of forests and other natural resources.
- (2) NGT does not have jurisdiction in cases of legal right relating to environment and giving relief and compensation for damages to persons and property.
- (3) The Tribunal is mandated to make disposal of applications or appeals finally within 6 months of filing of the same.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (A) Only 1 & 2
- (B) Only 2 & 3
- (C) Only 1 & 3
- (D) All of the above

Ans: C

QUESTION) Which of the following pair is/are incorrect?

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- (1) National Afforestation and Eco Development Board - Ministry of Environment and Forests
- (2) National River Conservation Directorate - Ministry of Water Resources
- (3) Central Ground Water Board - Ministry of Environment and Forests

Select the correct code:

- (A) Only 1
- (B) Only 2 & 3
- (C) Only 1 & 3
- (D) All of the above

Answer: A

QUESTION) With reference to the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which of the following statements is/are correct?

- (1) IUCN is an organ of the United Nations and CITES is an international agreement between governments
- (2) IUCN runs thousands of field projects around the world to better manage natural environments.
- (3) CITES is legally binding on the States that have joined it, but this Convention does not take the place of national laws.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (A) Only 1
- (B) 2 and 3
- (C) 1 and 3



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(D) All of the above

Ans: B

Exp: IUCN is not an organ of UN. It has observer and consultative status at the United Nations.

QUESTION) Which of the following statements is/are true?

(1) Chinkara are native to Iran, Pakistan and India.

(2) In India, Chinkaras are protected under the Schedule-I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

(3) They are mostly found in Rajasthan, north western and central parts of India.

(A) 1 and 2

(B) 2 and 3

(C) 1 and 3

(D) All of the above

Ans: D

Exp: This antelope species, also called the Indian gazelle lives in arid areas, the Savannahs, and subtropical light forests. They are available in very few numbers in Pakistan and Iran. However, hunting has brought down their numbers there, as per the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN). In India, chinkaras are protected under the Schedule-I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

QUESTION) Which of the following statements with reference to e-cigarettes is/are incorrect?

(1) There are no laws regulating them in India as of now

(2) Unlike conventional cigarettes, all e-cigarettes are known to have very low toxic emissions

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(3) The World Health Organisation recently endorsed the claim that these assist smokers to quit smoking

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(A)1 and 2

(B)2 and 3

(C)1 and 3

d.All of the above

Ans: B

Exp: There are no laws regulating e-cigarettes in India as of now. Countries like ours — which is a signatory to WHO’s Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC), a global treaty for tobacco control — have, however, been cautious by making it amply clear that e-cigarettes are not a “healthier” option and there is no evidence to say that it helps people who want to quit smoking. The WHO has, for long, maintained that the claim is not based on evidence. There are about 500 e-cigarette brands, and only a few have been analysed. (D)Some of the analysed brands are known to have very low toxic emissions compared with conventional cigarettes. Some e-cigarettes have few and low levels of toxicants, but some contain levels of cancer-causing agents, such as formaldehyde, that are as high as those in some conventional cigarettes.

QUESTION) Which of these pairs are correctly matched?

(1) Minamata convention: mercury

(2) Stockholm convention: persistent organic pollutants

(3) Basel convention: lead

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

(A)1 and 2 only

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(B)1 and 3 only

(C)2 and 3 only

(D)1, 2 and 3

Ans: A

Exp: The Basel Convention is for the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal. It was designed to reduce the movements of hazardous waste between nations, and specifically to prevent transfer of hazardous waste from developed to less developed countries (LDCs). It does not, however, address the movement of radioactive waste. The Minamata Convention on Mercury is an international treaty designed to protect human health and the environment from anthropogenic emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds. Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants is an international environmental treaty that aims to eliminate or restrict the production and use of persistent organic pollutants (POPs).

QUESTION) Consider the following statements:

(1) Animal Welfare Board of India is established under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

(2) National Tiger Conservation Authority is a statutory body.

(3) National Ganga River Basin Authority is chaired by the Prime Minister.

Which of the statements given above is/ are correct?

(A)1 only

(B)2 and 3 only

(C)2 only

d.1, 2 and 3



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Ans: B

Exp: Environment (Protection) Act was passed in 1962.

QUESTION) A bio fertilizer helps in increasing the supply of primary nutrients to plants. Which of the following is/are examples of biofertilizers?

- (1) Azotobacter
- (2) Rhizobium
- (3) Azospirillum

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1 and 3 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: D

Exp: Rhizobium is used for leguminous crops. Azotobacter can be used with crops like wheat, maize, mustard, cotton, potato and other vegetable crops. Azospirillum inoculations are recommended mainly for sorghum, millets, maize, sugarcane and wheat. Bio-fertilizers add nutrients through the natural processes of nitrogen fixation, solubilizing phosphorus, and stimulating plant growth through the synthesis of growth-promoting substances.

QUESTION) With reference to 'Eco-Sensitive Zones', which of the following statements is/are correct?

- (1) Eco-Sensitive Zones are the areas that are declared under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.



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(2) The purpose of the declaration of Eco-Sensitive Zones is to prohibit all kinds of human activities, in those zones except agriculture.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Ans: D

Exp: Eco sensitive zones are declared under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Eco sensitive zones are area in and around National Park and sanctuaries which are considered as eco fragile zones. There are some activities allowed in these areas like cottage industries, erection of telecom and electricity wires, tourism, hot-air balloons, tourism and so on.

QUESTION) With reference to two non-conventional energy sources called ‘coal bed methane’ and ‘shale gas’, consider the following ‘statements:

- (1) Coal bed methane is the pure methane gas extracted from coal seams, while shale gas is a mixture of propane and butane only that can be extracted from fine-grained sedimentary rocks.
- (2) In India abundant coal bed methane sources exist, but so far no shale gas sources have been found.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A)1 only
- B)2 only

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C)Both 1 and 2

D)Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: D

Exp: Shale gas contains methane. First statement says it contains “propane and butane only”. Shale gas resources exist in India.

QUESTION) If a wetland of international importance is brought under the ‘Montreux Record’, what does it imply?

(A)Changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring or are likely to occur in the wetland as a result of interference human

(B)The country in which the wetland is to prohibit any human activity within five kilo

(C)The survival of the on the the edge of the wetland depends located should enact a law meters from wetland cultural practices and traditions of certain communities living in its vicinity and therefore the cultural diversity therein should not be destroyed

(D)It is given the status of ‘World Heritage Site’

Ans: A

Exp: Under Ramsar sites=> Montreux record is the record of Ramsarsiets where Changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring or are likely to occur in the wetland as a result of human interference.

QUESTION) The National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 was enacted in consonance with which of the following provisions of the Constitution of India?

(1) Right to healthy environment, construed as a part of part of Right to life under Article 21.

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(2) Provision of grants for raising the level of administration in the Scheduled Areas for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes under Article 275(1)

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

QUESTION) How does National Biodiversity Authority (NBA)help in protecting the Indian agriculture?

- (1) NBA checks the biopiracy and protects the indigenous and traditional genetic resources.
- (2) NBA directly monitors and supervises the scientific research on genetic modification of crop plants.
- (3) Application for intellectual Property Rights related to genetic /biological resources cannot be made without the approval of NBA.

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

- (A)1 only
- (B)2 and 3
- (C)1 and 3
- d.All of the above

Ans: C

Exp: The top biotech regulator in India for Genetically Modified Organisms is Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC).

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QUESTION) Consider the following statements regarding the primary source of energy:

- (1) Fossil fuel includes all forms of stored solar energy including coal, lignite, peat, crude oil (petroleum) and natural gas are considered primary sources of energy.
- (2) The primary energy resources are non-renewable and exhaustible because they are found in finite quantities cannot be renewed if exhausted during one's lifetime.
- (3) Their renewal or formation may require millions of years, not within the human life scale, i.e., they are replaced slowly than they are use (D)

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

- (A)Only 1
- (B)1 and 2
- (C)2 and 3
- (D)All of the above

Ans: D

Exp: Fossil fuel includes all forms of stored solar energy including coal, lignite, peat, crude oil (petroleum) and natural gas. These are considered primary sources of energy. These energy resources are non-renewable and exhaustible because they are found in finite quantities cannot be renewed if exhausted during one's lifetime. Their renewal or formation may require millions of years, not within the human life scale, i.e., they are replaced slowly than they are used. Though coal, oil and natural gas are biotic in origin as they were produced from plants and plankton that lived millions of years ago, they cannot be renewed in practical terms; at least it cannot be reproduced in our times. Once these resources are consumed, they are practically gone forever.

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QUESTION) Environmental pollution results from 'the release of substances and energy from waste products of human activities. Consider the various statements related to pollution.

- (1) Acid rain is the result of water pollution.
- (2) Noise pollution is location specific and its intensity declines with increase in distance from the source of pollution
- (3) In most of metro cities and towns in the country, about 30 to 50 per cent of the waste generated are left uncollected which accumulate on streets.

Which of the above is/are not correct?

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1 and 3 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) None of the above

Ans.B

Exp: Acid rains results from air pollution. Air gets polluted by oxides of sulphur and nitrogen which dissolves in water droplets in clouds to become acids. In metropolitan cities like Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Bangalore, etc., about 90 per cent of the solid waste is collected and disposed. But in most of other cities and towns in the country, about 30 to 50 per cent of the waste generated are left uncollected which accumulate on streets, in open spaces between houses and in wastelands leading to serious health hazards. These wastes should be treated as resource and utilised for generating energy and compost. Untreated wastes ferment slowly and release toxic biogas to the atmosphere, including methane.

QUESTION) It is projected that by the year 2100, global temperature will increase by 2⁰ C. This rise in temperature will cause many other changes.



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Which of the following can be the result of direct impact of global warming?

- (1) Sea-level rise
- (2) Increase in incidence of annual flooding
- (3) Increase in insect-borne disease like malaria
- (4) Shift in Agricultural Pattern

Code:

- (A) 1 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (B) 1 and 2 only
- (D) All of the above

Answer: D

QUESTION) Ecosystems can be divided into Biomes. Consider the following statement/s about Biomes and choose the correct ones:

- (1) Biomes are the classifications of the terrestrial ecosystems only.
- (2) A Biome is a plant and animal community that covers a large geographical area.
- (3) The boundaries of different Biomes on land are determined mainly by the climate.

Code:

- (A) 2 and 3 only
- (C) 1 and 2 only



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(B)3 only

(D)All of the above

Answer: D

Exp: All are correct. Biomes- eg. Forest, grassland, desert and tundra biomes.

QUESTION) Biodiversity is the number and variety of organisms found within a specified geographical region. Consider the following in this regard and choose the correct ones.

(1) Biodiversity is richer in temperate region compared to the Tropical and Polar regions.

(2) Biodiversity is a system in constant evolution, from a view point of species and individual organisms.

(3) With the emergence of new species, biodiversity is on a rise compared to earlier times.

Code:

a) 1 and 2 only

b) 2 only

c) 2 and 3 only

d) All of the above

Answer: B

Exp: Biodiversity is richer in tropical region. As one approaches the Polar Regions, one finds larger and larger population of fewer and fewer species. Tropical forests are very rich in bio-diversity. Before the advent of humans, however, our earth supported more biodiversity than in any other period. Since, the emergence of humans, biodiversity has begun a rapid decline.

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QUESTION) For the purpose of effective conservation of flora and fauna, special steps have been initiated by the Government of India in collaboration with UNESCO's 'Man and Biosphere Programme'.

Consider the following statement/s in this regard and choose the correct ones:

- (1) Initially the Project Tiger was launched in ten tiger reserves.
- (2) Project Elephant is aimed at ensuring long term survival of identified viable population of elephants in their natural habitat.
- (3) Biosphere reserves are terrestrial and coastal ecosystem, which are internationally recognized within the framework of UNESCO's Man and Biosphere (MAB) Programme.

Code:

- (A) All of the above
- (B) 1 and 2 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) 2 only

Answer: C

Exp: The project was started in 9 tiger reserves. Project Tiger was launched in 1973. The main objective of scheme is to ensure maintenance of viable population of tigers in India for scientific, aesthetic cultural and ecological values. Project Elephant was launched in 1992 to assist states having free ranging population of wild elephants.

QUESTION) Pollution is one of the major threats to the ecosystem and society faced by the modern global community. Consider the following statement/s in this regard.

- (1) Pollution is classified on the basis of medium from which pollutants originate.



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(2) Surface water available from rivers, lakes, canals etc is pure.

(3) Water pollutants are also created from natural sources.

Which of the above is/are not correct?

(A) 1 and 2 only

b) 1 and 3 only

c) 2 and 3 only

d) All of the above

Answer: A Exp: Classified on the basis of medium through which pollutants are transported and diffused.

QUESTION) With reference to the South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme

(SACEP), consider the following statements:

(1) It is a regional arm of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

(2) It aims to promote regional co-operation in South Asia in the field of environment.

(3) The SACEP Secretariat is located in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(A) 1 and 2 only

(B) 3 only

(C) 1 and 3 only

(D) 2 only

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Answer: D

South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) is an inter-governmental organization, established in 1982 by the governments of South Asia to promote and support protection, management and enhancement of the environment in the region. Hence, statement 1 is not correct and statement 2 is correct. SACEP member countries are Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The Mission of SACEP is to promote regional co-operation in South Asia in the field of environment, both natural and human in the context of sustainable development and on issues of economic and social development which also impinge on the environment and vice versa; to support conservation and management of natural resources of the region and to work closely with all national, regional, and international institutions, governmental and non-governmental, as well as experts and groups engaged in such co-operation and conservation efforts. The SACEP Secretariat was established in Colombo, Sri Lanka in 1982 and the host facility is provided by the Government of Sri Lanka. Hence, statement 3 is not correct .

QUESTION) With reference to Bioprospecting, consider the following statements:

- (1) It entails the search for economically valuable genetic and biochemical resources from nature.
- (2) It is used for developing new products in pharmaceutical industries only.

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

Bioprospecting or biodiversity prospecting can be defined as the systematic search for and development of new sources of chemical compounds, genes, micro-organisms, macro-organisms, and other valuable products from nature. It entails the search for

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economically valuable genetic and biochemical resources from nature. So, in brief, bioprospecting means looking for ways to commercialize biodiversity. Lately, exploration and research on indigenous knowledge related to the utilization and management of biological resources has also been included into the concept of bioprospecting. Thus, bioprospecting touches upon the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources and the rights of local and indigenous communities. Hence, statement 1 is correct. o Bioprospecting is used to develop commercially-valuable products for pharmaceutical, agricultural, cosmetic and other applications. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

QUESTION) With reference to Sacred Groves in India, consider the following statements:

- (1) It is an in-situ method of biodiversity conservation.
- (2) They are notified by the state government under Biological Diversity Act, 2002.
- (3) Animal hunting in Sacred Groves is completely prohibited under Wildlife Protection Act 1972.

Which of the statement given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 1 and 2 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer:A

Sacred groves are forest fragments of varying sizes, which are communally protected, and which usually have a significant religious connotation for the protecting community. Eg Sacred Groves in Himachal Pradesh are referred as DeoBhoomi. Statement 1 is correct. It is an in-situ method of biodiversity conservation as the flora and fauna are protected and conserved at the original site. Statement 2 is not correct. Sacred groves had no legal protection till 2002. However in the 2002 amendment of Wildlife Protection Act 1972, a provision was provided through which state government can confer legal protection to sacred groves. Statement 3 is not correct.

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Traditionally animal hunting is prohibited in sacred groves. However, some animals, which are not protected under Wildlife Protection Act, may be hunted by community members for religious rituals. The state government, if required, may put a ban on hunting of such animals.

QUESTION) Which of the following statements are correct with reference to „Forest-PLUS“?

- (1) It aims to develop solutions for sustainable forest land use in India.
- (2) It strengthens capacity for REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation) implementation in India.
- (3) It is a bilateral program between India and the U.S.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1 and 3 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D

The Partnership For Land Use Science (Forest- PLUS) Program is joint effort between USAID and the government of India focused on improving the management of forested landscapes in India in ways that mitigate climate change and position India to engage in REDD+ mechanisms. USAID Forest-PLUS is a bilateral program between India and the U.S. to develop solutions for sustainable forest land use in India. The program, in partnership with the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), prepares India to implement successfully Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+), an international mechanism for climate change mitigation, livelihoods improvement, and biodiversity protection. Forest-PLUS collaborates with Indian forestry institutions and local communities to pilot these solutions in landscapes of Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, and

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Sikkim. These landscapes represent tropical moist deciduous, tropical dry deciduous, moist temperate, and subtropical broadleaf forest types. Hence, all statements are correct.

QUESTION) With reference to Eco sensitive zone, consider the following statements:

- (1) It is the buffer area around the National parks and Wildlife sanctuaries.
- (2) It is declared under Environment (Protection) Act of 1986.
- (3) There is complete prohibition of any activity in the eco sensitive zone.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 and 3 only
- (C) 1, 2 and 3
- (D) 1 and 2 only

Answer: D

Statement 1 is correct: Eco sensitive zone is the buffer zone around the National parks and Wildlife sanctuaries. Eco sensitive zone acts as a transition zone from area of high protection to area of involving lesser protection. Statement 2 is correct: Eco sensitive zone is declared under the Environment (Protection) Act of 1986. Statement 3 is not correct: While some of the activities could be allowed in all eco sensitive areas (like rain water harvesting), others will need to be regulated or prohibited (like felling of trees regulated and commercial mining prohibited). Hence, there is no complete prohibition of any activity in the eco sensitive zone.

QUESTION) Which of the following is/are the main objectives of UNESCO's Man and Biosphere programme?

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- (1) To identify and assess the changes in the biosphere resulting from human and natural activities.
- (2) To study and compare the dynamic interrelationships between natural ecosystems and socio-economic processes.
- (3) To promote the exchange and transfer of knowledge on environmental problems and solutions. Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(A) 1, 2 and 3

(B) 1 and 2 only

(C) 1 only

(D) 3 only

Answer: A

The MAB Programme develops the basis within the natural and social sciences for the rational and sustainable use and conservation of the resources of the biosphere and for the improvement of the overall relationship between people and their environment. The Man and the Biosphere programme was formally launched in 1971 as an intergovernmental scientific initiative to improve the relationship between people and their environment, by proposing interdisciplinary research and training in natural resources management. The concept of MAB reserves originated in 1974 by a task force of UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme, and the first MAB reserves were designated two years later. By focusing on sites internationally recognized within the World Network of Biosphere Reserves, the MAB Programme strives to:

identify and assess the changes in the biosphere resulting from human and natural activities and the effects of these changes on humans and the environment, in particular in the context of climate change;

study and compare the dynamic interrelationships between natural/near-natural ecosystems and socio-economic processes, in particular in the context of accelerated loss of biological and cultural diversity with unexpected consequences that impact the ability of ecosystems to continue to provide services critical for human well-being; o ensure basic human welfare and a liveable environment in the context of rapid urbanization and energy consumption as drivers of environmental change;

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promote the exchange and transfer of knowledge on environmental problems and solutions, and to foster environmental education for sustainable development. Hence, all the statements are correct.

QUESTION) Consider the following statements about White Tigers:

- (1) The white color of Tiger is due to lack of melanin pigment.
- (2) White Tigers occur only in snow covered areas.
- (3) World's first White Tiger Safari is located in Madhya Pradesh.

Which of the statement given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 1 and 3 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B

Statement 1 is correct – Melanin pigment imparts darker color to Tigers. Lower the melanin content, whiter the color of tiger becomes. In rare circumstances, excessive melanin may impart a black color to Tiger. Two such cases have been observed to date. Statement 2 is not correct – White Tigers are not restricted to snow covered areas and can occur in any region. Statement 3 is correct - World's maiden 'White Tiger Safari' is located in Vindhya region (Satna district). Safari has three white tigers and two Royal Bengal tigers. The safari plans to house nine white tigers in coming time.

QUESTION) In the context of IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, consider the following species:

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- (1) It evaluates the extinction risk of various species and subspecies.
- (2) It is limited to animal species and does not include plant species.

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

Created in 1948, IUCN has evolved into the world's largest and most diverse environmental network. It harnesses the experience, resources and reach of its 1,300 Member organisations and the input of some 10,000 experts. IUCN is the global authority on the status of the natural world and the measures needed to safeguard it. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species is the world's most comprehensive inventory of the global conservation status of plant and animal species. Hence, statement 2 is not correct. It uses a set of criteria to evaluate the extinction risk of thousands of species and subspecies. Hence, statement 1 is correct. These criteria are relevant to all species and all regions of the world. With its strong scientific base, the IUCN Red List is recognized as the most authoritative guide to the status of biological diversity.

QUESTION) Consider the following statements with reference to the Greater Adjutant:

- (1) It is categorized as endangered on the IUCN Red List of threatened species.
- (2) It is endemic to the Western Ghats in India.
- (3) It is a herbivorous animal.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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(A) 1 only

(B) 2 and 3 only

(C) 2 only

(D) 1 and 3 only

Answer: A

This species's population is suspected to be decreasing very rapidly, in line with levels of direct exploitation and habitat destruction, particularly lowland deforestation and the felling of nest-trees, and drainage, conversion, pollution and over-exploitation of wetlands. It is categorized as endangered on the IUCN Red List of threatened species. Hence, statement 1 is correct. This is based on estimates of 650-800 birds in Assam, India, plus 150-200 birds in Cambodia, as well as at least 156 birds in Bihar state, India, which may have dispersed from the Assam population. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

QUESTION) Which of the following is the first country in the Middle East region to dismantle the “kafala” sponsorship system?

A.Qatar

B.U.A.E

C.Saudi Arabia

D.Oman

Answer: A

Explanation : Recently, Qatar has brought about a change in its labour laws, scrapping rules requiring migrant workers to take their employers' permission before changing jobs, and setting the monthly minimum wage at about \$274, an increase of over 25 per cent.

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The reforms, which were announced by the Emir of Qatar in October 2019, were signed also last year.

The first reform has abolished the unjustified ‘kafala system’ or requirement for a “no objection certificate” that migrant workers needed to get from their employers before changing jobs.

Now, workers will have to serve a one-month notice period if they have worked for less than two years and notice period of two months if they have worked longer.

These reforms are now applicable to workers of all nationalities and in all sectors, including domestic workers who were previously excluded. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) has hailed the move and notes that Qatar is the first country in the region to dismantle the “kafala” sponsorship system that is common in the Gulf region. ILO further said that the introduction of the non-discriminatory minimum wage would affect over 400,000 workers in the private sector and will increase remittances in the workers’ country of origin. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer

QUESTION) Consider the following statements with reference to the Coal India Ltd (CIL):

1. Coal India Ltd (CIL) will invest over 1.22 lakh crore rupees on development of nearly 500 projects related to coal evacuation, infrastructure, project development, exploration and clean coal technologies in the country.
2. Coal India has also identified 15 greenfield projects which will be operated under the Mine Developer and Operator (MDO) model.

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: C

EKLAVYA 360°PRELIMS PROGRAM – TEST 9 Explanation

Explanation : Coal India Ltd (CIL) will invest over 1.22 lakh crore rupees on development of nearly 500 projects related to coal evacuation, infrastructure, project development, exploration and clean coal technologies in the country. The investment aims at making India self-reliant in terms of coal and achieve the production target of 1 billion tonnes by 2023-2024. The national miner, CIL, will be investing around 14,200 crore rupees over the next 3 to 4 years, in two phases for its 49 First Mile Connectivity projects. First Mile Connectivity is the transportation of coal from pitheads to dispatch points. Computer-aided loading technology of coal is being developed to replace the existing methodology of transportation via road. Coal India has also identified 15 greenfield projects which will be operated under the Mine Developer and Operator (MDO) model. Overall nearly 34,600 crore rupees will be invested through this route. Coal India also announced measures for relaxations and exemptions for greater participation of its stakeholders. The experience criteria has been brought down from 65 % to 50 % for mining tenders, while work experience criteria are relaxed by 50 % in turnkey contracts. Hence both statements are correct.

QUESTION) Aarey forest land falls under the eco-sensitive zone of which of the following national park?

- A.Sanjay Gandhi National Park
- B.Nagarhole National Park
- C.Gugamal National Park
- D.Balpakram National Park

Answer: A

Explanation : Maharashtra Chief Minister announced that the state government would designate a 600-acre parcel of land in the heart of urban Mumbai as a reserved forest. The Aarey Milk Colony, spread over 3,162 acres, was established in 1949 as a centre for processing and marketing milk for Mumbai and adjoining areas.

Over the last 70 years, this sprawling green area has been steadily eaten away at its edges – and 1,282 acres were acquired by the state for projects such as Film City.

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Once located on the edge of the city, it is now part of the sprawling western suburb known as Goregaon. The land falls under the eco-sensitive zone of the Sanjay Gandhi National Park.

Now the Maharashtra CM announced that he planned to earmark the Aarey forest land as a reserve forest. However, of the 1,800-plus acres of open space available, only 600 acres will be earmarked as forest.

Under Section 4 of The Indian Forest Act, 1927, the state government can “constitute any land a reserved forest” by issuing a notification in the Official Gazette.

Under the law, the government must also appoint a Forest Settlement Officer (FSO) “to determine the rights alleged to exist in favour of any person in or over any land comprised within such limits or in or over any forest-produce, and to deal with the same”. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

QUESTION) With reference to the World Coconut Day, consider the following statements:

1. World Coconut Day was observed on September 2, 2020.
2. The theme of World Coconut Day this year is – ‘Invest in Coconut to save the world’.

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: C

Explanation :

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World Coconut Day was observed on September 2, 2020. The theme of World Coconut Day this year is – ‘Invest in Coconut to save the world’.

The main objective of celebrating this day is to create awareness across the globe about the importance of the coconut and its benefits.

The day is especially marked in countries under Asian and Pacific regions by the Asian and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC) as they house most of the world’s coconut growing production centres. The first celebration of World Coconut Day was in the year 2009. The occasion is to commemorate the foundation day of APCC, which operates under the flagship authority of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP). In India, Kerala tops the production in coconut, but Tamil Nadu and Karnataka are also picking up in this sector. The National Coconut Board is also overseeing the production and development of value-added varieties from coconut like soft drinks, chips and jams. Hence both statements are correct.

QUESTION) With reference to the Gangetic Dolphin, consider the following statements:

1. The Gangetic dolphin (*Platanista gangetica*) is one of five species of river dolphin found around the world.
2. It is found mainly in the Indian subcontinent, particularly in Ganga-Brahmaputra-Meghna and Karnaphuli-Sangu river systems

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: C

Explanation :

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In his Independence Day Speech this year, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the government's plan to launch a Project Dolphin. The proposed project is aimed at saving both river and marine dolphins.

The Gangetic dolphin (*Platanista gangetica*) is one of five species of river dolphin found around the world.

It is found mainly in the Indian subcontinent, particularly in Ganga-Brahmaputra-Meghna and Karnaphuli-Sangu river systems. The Gangetic dolphin population in India could be about 2,500-3,000. The Gangetic dolphin remains listed as endangered by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature.

Wildlife Act Protection: After the launch of Ganga Action Plan in 1985, the government on November 24, 1986 included Gangetic dolphins in the First Schedule of the Indian Wildlife (Protection), Act 1972. Vikramshila Ganges Dolphin Sanctuary was established in Bihar under this Act.

Conservation Plan: The government also prepared The Conservation Action Plan for the Ganges River Dolphin 2010-2020, which “identified threats to Gangetic Dolphins and impact of river traffic, irrigation canals and depletion of prey-base on Dolphins populations”.

National Aquatic Animal: On October 5, 2009, the then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, declared the Gangetic river dolphin as the national aquatic animal. Now, the National Mission for Clean Ganga celebrates **October 5 as National Ganga River Dolphin Day**. Hence both statements are correct.

QUESTION) Government of India announced Back to Village (B2V) programme with respect to which of the following states/UTs?

A.Chhattisgarh

B.Arunachal Pradesh

C.Jammu and Kashmir

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D.Telanagana

Answer: C

Explanation :

In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, the government announced the third phase of ambitious Back to Village (B2V) programme from October 2 to 12, this year.

Terming the first two phases of Back to Village (B2V) as huge success, government said it is a unique programme which received tremendous respect from the people when 4000 Gazetted Officers from J&K administration visited each and every Panchayat of J&K. The Phase-I of B2V was an introductory and interactive programme to understand the people's grievances and demands. While Phase-II focused on the devolution of powers to panchayats and tried to understand how these panchayats are functioning and what are the grievances and demands, "the Phase-III has been designed on the format for grievance redressal." Next month will be a festival of public grievance redressal, festival of public service delivery and festival of delivery of development at gram Panchayat level.

QUESTION) With respect to "Rashtriya Poshan Maah", consider the following statements:

1. The objective is to encourage Jan Bhagidaari, in order to create a Jan Andolan, for addressing malnutrition amongst young children, and women and to ensure health and nutrition for everyone.
2. Ministry of health and family welfare is the nodal agency in convergence with partner Ministries and departments, at National, States/UTs, Districts, and grass root level.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A.1 only
- B.2 only
- C.Both 1 and 2

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D.Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: A

Explanation :

The 3rd Rashtriya Poshan Maah was celebrated during the month of September 2020.

Every year the Poshan Maah is celebrated under POSHAN Abhiyaan (PM's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nourishment), which was launched in 2018.

Hence statement 2 is wrong: Ministry of Women and Child Development, being the nodal Ministry for POSHAN Abhiyaan, is celebrating the Poshan Maah in convergence with partner Ministries and departments, at National, States/UTs, Districts, and grass root level.

Hence statement 1 is correct: The objective of the Poshan Maah is to encourage Jan Bhagidaari, in order to create a Jan Andolan, for addressing malnutrition amongst young children, and women and to ensure health and nutrition for everyone.

Identification of Severely Acute Malnourished (SAM) Children and their management and plantation of Poshan Vaatikas- Nutri gardens, will be undertaken as focus activities during Poshan Maah, along with awareness generation regarding importance of early breast feeding etc.

QUESTION) Recently which of the following groups conducted a virtual meeting to ensure education continuity and safety for all?

A.SAARC

B.G-20

C.ASEAN

D.G7

Answer: B

EKLAVYA 360°PRELIMS PROGRAM – TEST 9 Explanation

Explanation : G-20 countries have reaffirmed their commitment to ensure education continuity and safety for all. Hence option b is correct.

A virtual meeting of G20 Education Ministers was held to discuss and share experiences of member countries in the three identified areas. These are :

- Education Continuity in Times of Crises,
- Early Childhood Education and
- Internationalization in Education.

The Education Ministers adopted a communique at the end of the meeting which recognizes the value of distance and blended teaching and learning and underscores the importance of enhancing access to high-quality education, professional development for educators, digital infrastructure and content.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is hosting G-20 Leaders' Summit in 2020. The G20 members are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States and the European Union (EU). Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

QUESTION) With reference to the COVAX Global Vaccines Facility, consider the following statements:

1. The COVAX Global Vaccines Facility is the vaccine pillar of the ACT-Accelerator, an initiative launched in April to speed up development of medicines to treat Covid-19 and make them available to people everywhere.
2. It is operated by Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance; CEPI, and WHO, alongside multinational and developing country vaccine manufacturers.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A.1 only

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B.2 only

C.Both 1 and 2

D.Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

Explanation : In what could possibly be the world's largest and fastest ever operation of its kind, the UNICEF will be leading the procurement and supply of coronavirus vaccines to ensure that all countries have safe, fast and equitable access to initial doses when they are available.

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is the world's largest single vaccine buyer, procuring more than 2 billion doses of various vaccines annually for routine immunisation and outbreak response on behalf of nearly 100 countries.

The UNICEF will lead efforts to procure and supply doses of Covid-19 vaccines on behalf of the COVAX Global Vaccines Facility for 92 low and lower middle-income countries, whose vaccine purchases will be supported by the mechanism.

The UNICEF will undertake these efforts in close collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), Gavi the Vaccine Alliance, the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), PAHO, World Bank, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and other partners.

The COVAX Global Vaccines Facility is the vaccine pillar of the ACT-Accelerator, an initiative launched in April to speed up development of medicines to treat Covid-19 and make them available to people everywhere.

It is operated by Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance; CEPI, and WHO, alongside multinational and developing country vaccine manufacturers. Hence both statements are correct

EKLAVYA 360°PRELIMS PROGRAM – TEST 9 Explanation

QUESTION) With reference to the International Day to Protect Education from Attack, consider the following statements:

1. The first-ever International Day to Protect Education from Attack is being celebrated on September 9, 2020 under the theme “Protect Education, Save a Generation.”
2. The day was established by a unanimous decision of the UN General Assembly, calling on UNESCO and UNICEF to raise awareness of the plight of millions of children living in countries affected by conflict.

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: C

Explanation : The first-ever International Day to Protect Education from Attack is being celebrated on September 9, 2020 under the theme “Protect Education, Save a Generation”.

The day was established by a unanimous decision of the UN General Assembly, calling on UNESCO and UNICEF to raise awareness of the plight of millions of children living in countries affected by conflict.

Over the past five years, there have been more than 11,000 reported attacks on education in over 36 countries, according to the Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack (GCPEA). 22,000 students, teachers and academics were killed, injured, arrested or otherwise harmed in attacks between 2015-2019.

UNESCO and UNICEF will facilitate the annual observance of the Day in close collaboration with partners within and outside the UN system.

EKLAVYA 360°PRELIMS PROGRAM – TEST 9 Explanation

QUESTION) With reference to PROJECT 17A, consider the following statements:

1. The P17A is the follow-on of earlier P-17 Shivalik class ‘first indigenously’ constructed stealth warships which are already in operations with Indian Navy.
2. Construction of P17A ships differ in the very concept of warship building by way of adoption of the modern technology ‘Integrated Construction (IC)’ where the blocks are pre-outfitted before joining to reduce the build period of warships.

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: C

Explanation : Vice Admiral S R Sarma of the Indian Navy laid the keel of the third ship (Yard- 12653) of the prestigious P17A class stealth frigates on 10 Sep 2020.

Seven frigates under P17A series will be constructed of which four are being constructed in MDL and three in GRSE with MDL as the lead yard.

The P17A class frigates are being built using indigenously developed steel and fitted with weapons and sensors along with Integrated Platform Management System. These ships are having stealth features.

Construction of P17A ships differ in the very concept of warship building by way of adoption of the modern technology ‘Integrated Construction (IC)’ where the blocks are pre-outfitted before joining to reduce the build period of warships.

When commissioned the platforms will enhance the combat capability of the Indian Naval fleet. Hence both statements are correct

EKLAVYA 360°PRELIMS PROGRAM – TEST 9 Explanation

QUESTION) Ecological threat register, recently seen in news, is an initiative of:

A. Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP)

B. World Bank

C. Green peace

D. World Economic Forum

Answer: A

Explanation : More than 1 billion people face being displaced by 2050 as the climate crisis and rapid population growth drive an increase in migration with “huge impacts” for both the developing and developed worlds, according to IEP’s first ecological threat register.

The Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP), a thinktank that produces annual global terrorism and peace indexes, said 1.2 billion people lived in 31 countries that are not sufficiently resilient to withstand ecological threats.

19 countries facing the highest number of threats, including water and food shortages and greater exposure to natural disasters, are also among the world’s 40 least peaceful countries. Out of 157 countries’ assessed, 141 countries faced at least one ecological threat by 2050, with sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, the Middle East and North Africa the regions facing the largest number.

Some countries, such as India and China, are most threatened by water scarcity, it concluded, while others such as Pakistan, Iran, Kenya, Mozambique and Madagascar face a combination of threats and a growing incapacity to deal with them.

It judged Pakistan to be the country with the largest number of people at risk of mass migration, followed by Ethiopia and Iran.

16 countries including Sweden, Norway, Ireland, and Iceland, faced no threat.

EKLAVYA 360°PRELIMS PROGRAM – TEST 9 Explanation

The world had 60% less fresh water available than it did 50 years ago, while demand for food was predicted to rise by 50% by 2050 and natural disasters were only likely to increase in frequency because of the climate crisis.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer

QUESTION) Which of the following became the first listed Indian firm to cross \$200 billion in market capitalisation or m-cap?

- A. Reliance Industries (RIL)
- B. Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.
- C. State Bank of India
- D. Oil And Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.

Answer: A

Explanation :

The Reliance Industries (RIL) became the first listed Indian firm to cross \$200 billion in market capitalisation or m-cap.

Market capitalization refers to how much a company is worth as determined by the stock market. It is defined as the total market value of all outstanding shares.

QUESTION) With reference to the guidelines issued by RBI on Chief Compliance Officer (CCO), consider the following statements:

1. The CCO must be appointed for a minimum fixed period of five years.
2. The person should be a senior executive of the bank, preferably in the rank of a general manager or an equivalent position or he could also be recruited from outside.

EKLAVYA 360°PRELIMS PROGRAM – TEST 9 Explanation

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 : Reserve Bank of India has issued guidelines for appointment of Chief Compliance Officer (CCO) in banks to ensure uniform approach with regard to compliance and risk management culture across the banking industry. The CCO must be appointed for a minimum fixed period of three years. The person should be a senior executive of the bank, preferably in the rank of a general manager or an equivalent position or he could also be recruited from outside. There shall not be any responsibility which brings elements of conflict of interest, especially the role relating to business. He must not be a member of any committee which brings his/her role in conflict with responsibility as member of the committee, including any committee dealing with purchases /sanctions. No vigilance case or adverse observation from the RBI should be pending against the candidate identified for appointment as the CCO.

Selection of the candidate for the post of the CCO should be done on the basis of a well-defined selection process and recommendations made by the senior executive-level selection committee constituted by the board for the purpose. Hence only statement 2 is correct.

QUESTION) Who among the following will be the first-ever woman executive to head a major Wall Street bank (Citigroup).

- A.Jane Fraser
- B.Kalpana Morparia
- C.Ranjana Kumar

EKLAVYA 360°PRELIMS PROGRAM – TEST 9 Explanation

D.Shikha Sharma

Answer: A

Explanation : Citigroup Inc Chief Executive Officer Michael Corbat will step down in February 2021 and will be succeeded by President Jane Fraser, making her the first-ever woman executive to head a major Wall Street bank.

Jane Fraser (born 1967) is a Scottish-American banking executive.

In 2019, she was named president of Citigroup, and also CEO of Consumer Banking.

In September 2020, Citigroup announced that she would replace Michael Corbat as CEO of the entire corporation in February 2021, becoming the first woman to head a major Wall Street bank. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

QUESTION) With reference to the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer, consider the following statements:

- 1. International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer will be observed on 16 September.**
- 2. The Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, which was adopted and signed by all member countries of UN.**

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 : International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer will be observed on 16 September.

The Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, which was adopted and signed by 28 countries, on 22 March 1985. In September 1987, this led to the drafting of The Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.

EKLAVYA 360°PRELIMS PROGRAM – TEST 9 Explanation

Montreal Protocol: The principal aim of the Montreal Protocol is to protect the ozone layer by taking measures to control total global production and consumption of substances that deplete it, with the ultimate objective of their elimination on the basis of developments in scientific knowledge and technological information.

In 1994, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 16 September the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer, commemorating the date of the signing, in 1987, of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (resolution 49/114).

Universal ratification: On 16th September 2009, the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol became the first treaties in the history of the United Nations to achieve universal ratification.

Kigali Amendment: The Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer reached agreement at their 28th Meeting of the Parties on 15 October 2016 in Kigali, Rwanda to phase-down hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). Hence only statement 1 is correct.

QUESTION) With reference to Indian System of Medicine, consider the following statements:

1. The National Commission for Homoeopathy Bill, 2020 seeks to repeal the Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973 and to set up a National Commission for Homoeopathy.
2. The National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Bill, 2020 WAS to repeal the Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970 and set up a National Commission for Indian System of Medicine.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A.1 only
- B.2 only
- C.Both 1 and 2

EKLAVYA 360°PRELIMS PROGRAM – TEST 9 Explanation

D.Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

QUESTION) K.N. Dikshit committee, recently seen in news, is related to:

- A.conducting holistic study of origin and evolution of Indian culture
- B. review the regulatory guidelines and supervisory framework of Core Investment Companies (CIC)
- C.examine the existing state of mortgage securitization in India and Development of Housing Finance Securitization.
- D.accelerate the GDP growth of the country.

Answer: A

Explanation : Union Minister of Culture informed Lok Sabha about an expert committee which has been set up for conducting holistic study of origin and evolution of Indian culture.

An expert committee has been set up for conducting holistic study of origin and evolution of Indian culture to since 12000 years before present and its interface with other cultures of the world.

The committee is chaired by K.N. Dikshit (Chairman of Indian Archaeological Society, New Delhi and former Joint Director General, Archaeological Survey of India). Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

QUESTION) With reference to the Solar Cycle 25, consider the following statements:

1. Solar cycles have implications for life and technology on Earth as well as astronauts in space.
2. A Sunspot is an area on the Sun that appears brightest on the surface and is relatively hotter than the surrounding parts.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

EKLAVYA 360°PRELIMS PROGRAM – TEST 9 Explanation

A.1 only

B.2 only

C.Both 1 and 2

D.Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: A

Explanation :

Scientists from NASA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) announced their predictions about the new solar cycle, called Solar Cycle 25, which they believe has begun.

Since the Sun's surface is a very active space, electrically charged gases on its surface generate areas of powerful magnetic forces, which are called magnetic fields.

Since the gases on the Sun's surface are constantly moving, these magnetic fields can get stretched, twisted and tangled creating motion on the surface, which is referred to as solar activity.

Solar activity varied with the stages of the solar cycle, which lasts on average for a period of 11 years. Solar cycles have implications for life and technology on Earth as well as astronauts in space. Scientists track a solar cycle by using sunspots, which are the dark blotches on the Sun that are associated with solar activity. Sunspots are associated as the origins for giant explosions such as solar flares that can spew light, energy and solar material into space. A Sunspot is an area on the Sun that appears dark on the surface and is relatively cooler than the surrounding parts. These spots, some as large as 50,000 km in diameter, are the visible markers of the Sun's magnetic field, which forms a blanket that protects the solar system from harmful cosmic radiation. Hence only statement 1 is correct.

QUESTION) With reference to the World Patient Safety Day 2020, consider the following statements:

1. It is being observed on 17 September.



EKLAVYA 360°PRELIMS PROGRAM – TEST 9 Explanation

2. This year theme is "Health Worker Safety: A Priority for Patient Safety".

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: C

Explanation :

The World Patient Safety Day 2020 was observed on 17 September under the theme "Health Worker Safety: A Priority for Patient Safety."

The 72nd World Health Assembly adopted resolution WHA 72.6 'Global action on patient safety' on 25 May 2019.

The resolution recognizes patient safety as a global health priority and endorses the establishment of World Patient Safety Day to be observed annually on 17 September.

World Patient Safety Day calls for global solidarity and concerted action by all countries and international partners to improve patient safety. Hence both statements are correct.

QUESTION) With reference to the International Coastal Clean-Up Day, consider the following statements:

1. The International Coastal Clean-Up Day is being celebrated on September 19, 2020 around the world.

2. International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) Day takes place on the second Saturday in September every year, and is one of the largest one-day volunteer event in the world.



EKLAVYA 360°PRELIMS PROGRAM – TEST 9 Explanation

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 : The International Coastal Clean-Up Day was celebrated on September 19, 2020 around the world.

International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) Day takes place on the third Saturday in September every year, and is one of the largest one-day volunteer event in the world.

International Coastal Cleanup Day got its start in 1986 when Linda Maraniss met Kathy O'Hara while working for Ocean Conservancy.

QUESTION) India recently launched its own eco-label “BEAMS” (Beach Environment & Aesthetics Management Services) under:

A.Sagarmala Project

B.Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) project

C.National Mission For A Green India (GIM)

D.None of the above

Answer: B

Explanation :

EKLAVYA 360°PRELIMS PROGRAM – TEST 9 Explanation

Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) launched India's own eco-label BEAMS by e-hoisting the flag - #IAMSAVINGMYBEACH simultaneously at the eight beaches recently recognized as blue flag beaches.

SICOM, MoEFCC in pursuit of promoting its policies for sustainable development in coastal regions have embarked upon a highly acclaimed program "BEAMS" (Beach Environment & Aesthetics Management Services) under its ICZM (Integrated Coastal Zone Management) project.

This is one of the several other projects of ICZM that Govt of India is undertaking for the sustainable development of coastal regions, striving for globally recognized and the coveted eco-label 'Blue flag'.

The objective of BEAMS program is to abate pollution in coastal waters, promote sustainable development of beach facilities, protect & conserve coastal ecosystems & natural resources etc. This program promotes beach recreation in absolute harmony with nature. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

QUESTION) With reference to the Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement of Price Assurance and Farm Services Act, 2020, consider the following statements:

1. Sale, lease or mortgage of farmers' land is allowed.
2. Effective dispute resolution mechanism has been provided for with clear time lines for redressal.

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

EKLAVYA 360°PRELIMS PROGRAM – TEST 9 Explanation

Explanation :

The new legislation will empower farmers for engaging with processors, wholesalers, aggregators, wholesalers, large retailers, exporters etc., on a level playing field without any fear of exploitation.

It will transfer the risk of market unpredictability from the farmer to the sponsor and also enable the farmer to access modern technology and better inputs. It will reduce cost of marketing and improve income of farmers.

This legislation will act as a catalyst to attract private sector investment for building supply chains for supply of Indian farm produce to national and global markets, and in agricultural infrastructure.

Farmers will get access to technology and advice for high value agriculture and get ready market for such produce. Farmers will engage in direct marketing thereby eliminating intermediaries resulting in full realization of price.

Farmers have been provided adequate protection. Sale, lease or mortgage of farmers' land is totally prohibited and farmers' land is also protected against any recovery.

Effective dispute resolution mechanism has been provided for with clear time lines for redressal. Hence only statement 2 is correct.

QUESTION) With reference to the guidelines to support artisans in Beekeeping Activity, consider the following statements:

1. Under this scheme, Bee boxes, with Bee colonies, will also be distributed to Migrant workers in Prime Minister Gareeb Kalyan Rozgar Abhiyaan districts.
2. Additional amount of 50 crore rupees has also been kept for developing Beekeeping honey clusters under the 'SFURTI' scheme of the Ministry.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A.1 only
- B.2 only

EKLAVYA 360°PRELIMS PROGRAM – TEST 9 Explanation

C.Both 1 and 2

D.Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

Explanation :

Ministry of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises, MSME, has announced new guidelines to support artisans in Beekeeping Activity.

Government will provide assistance of Bee boxes and Tool kits. Under this scheme, Bee boxes, with Bee colonies, will also be distributed to Migrant workers in Prime Minister Gareeb Kalyan Rozgar Abhiyaan districts.

A five-day beekeeping training will also be provided to the beneficiaries through various Training Centres or State Beekeeping Extension Centres or Master Trainers as per prescribed syllabus.

This is being done in order to create sustainable employment and to provide supplementary income for the beekeepers or farmers, to create awareness about Honey and other Hive Products etc.

To begin with, Scheme proposes to cover, during 2020-21, a total of 2,050 Beekeepers, Entrepreneurs, Farmers, Unemployed Youth, Adivasis will get benefitted from these projects or programme.

Additional amount of 50 crore rupees has also been kept for developing Beekeeping honey clusters under the 'SFURTI' scheme of the Ministry. Hence both statements are correct.

QUESTION) With reference to the Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB), consider the following statements:

1. It is largest association of Election Management Bodies (EMBs) worldwide.
2. At present A-WEB has 115 EMBs as Members & 16 Regional Associations/Organisations as Associate Members.

EKLAVYA 360°PRELIMS PROGRAM – TEST 9 Explanation

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: C

Explanation :

The Election Commission of India had organized an International Webinar on 21st September 2020, on the Theme ‘Issues, Challenges and Protocols for Conducting Elections during COVID-19 : Sharing Country Experiences’ on its completion of one year of Chairmanship of the Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB).

The Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB) is largest association of Election Management Bodies (EMBs) worldwide.

At present A-WEB has 115 EMBs as Members & 16 Regional Associations/Organisations as Associate Members.

ECI has been very closely associated with the process of formation of A-WEB since 2011. ECI hosted the 4th General Assembly of A-WEB on 03 Sep 2019 at Bengaluru and took over as Chair of A-WEB for 2019-2021 term. An India A-WEB Centre has been established at New Delhi, for documentation, research and training for sharing the best practices and capacity building of officials of A-WEB members. This is the first Webinar being held by the India A-WEB Centre. Hence both statements are correct.

QUESTION) With reference to the POSHAN Abhiyaan, consider the following statements:

1. It is under the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

2. According to the recent memorandum the Anganwadi worker who is providing the Ayurveda nutrition message to the community at ground level may be designated as ‘DHATRI’ - Dedicated Health Activist to Replenish the Innutrition.

EKLAVYA 360°PRELIMS PROGRAM – TEST 9 Explanation

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 :

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Ministry of AYUSH and Ministry of Women and Child Development for controlling Malnutrition as a part of POSHAN Abhiyaan.

POSHAN Abhiyaan or National Nutrition Mission is Government of India's flagship programme under Ministry of Women & Child Development to improve nutritional outcomes for children, pregnant women and lactating mothers.

The specific areas identified under the MoU for co-operation include:

Integration of AYUSH into POSHAN Abhiyaan and Control of malnutrition through the principles and practices of Ayurveda, Yoga and other Ayush systems.

The Anganwadi worker who is providing the Ayurveda nutrition message to the community at ground level may be designated as 'DHATRI' - Dedicated Health Activist to Replenish the Innutrition.

The two Ministries have also decided to launch the hashtag #Ayush4Anganwadi for generating awareness about the activities on the digital media. Hence only statement 2 is correct.

QUESTION) With reference to the Indian Railways, consider the following statements:

EKLAVYA 360°PRELIMS PROGRAM – TEST 9 Explanation

1. Railways has planned for 100 per cent electrification of its broad gauge routes by 2023.
2. Around 63 per cent broad gauge lines have already been electrified out of a total 63,631 route kilometers as on 1st of April this year.

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: C

Explanation :

Railways has planned for 100 per cent electrification of its broad gauge routes by 2023. This was stated by the Railway Minister Piyush Goyal in a written reply in the Rajya Sabha. The Minister informed that around 63 per cent broad gauge lines have already been electrified out of a total 63,631 route kilometers as on 1st of April this year. A total of 23,765 route kilometre lines are yet to be electrified in the country. Several steps have been taken to expedite electrification of railway lines in the country and they include, award of Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC) contracts, better project monitoring mechanism etc. Hence both statements are correct.

QUESTION) With reference to the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), consider the following statements:

1. It is constituted under Section 48 (1) (a) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, is the primary fund available with State Governments for responses to notified disasters.
2. The Central Government contributes 90% of SDRF allocation for general category States/UTs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?



EKLAVYA 360°PRELIMS PROGRAM – TEST 9 Explanation

A.1 only

B.2 only

C.Both 1 and 2

D.Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: A

Explanation :

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced that the limit of using the State Disaster Response Fund for COVID specific infrastructure has been increased from 35 per cent to 50 per cent. The decision would help States have more finances at their disposal to fight the virus.

The State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), constituted under Section 48 (1) (a) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, is the primary fund available with State Governments for responses to notified disasters.

The Central Government contributes 75% of SDRF allocation for general category States/UTs and 90% for special category States/UTs (NE States, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir). Hence only statement 1 is correct.

QUESTION) Passage Exercise or PASSEX exercises, recently seen in news, is between India and:

A.Japan

B.Germany

C.France

D.Australia

Answer: D

EKLAVYA 360°PRELIMS PROGRAM – TEST 9 Explanation

Explanation :

The Indian and the Australian navies were undertaken Passage Exercise or PASSEX exercises on September 23-24 in the Indian Ocean.

From the Indian side, Indian Naval Ships Sahyadri and Karmuk will be present and Australia will be represented by HMAS Hobart. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

QUESTION) A hackathon named “KRITAGYA” has been planned by:

- A.NITI Aayog
- B.Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)
- C.Union Ministry of Education
- D.None of the above

Answer: B

Explanation :

In order to promote potential technology solutions for enhancing farm mechanization with special emphasis on women friendly equipment's, a hackathon named “KRITAGYA” has been planned by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP).

Students, faculties and innovators/entrepreneurs from any university / technical institution across the country can apply and participate in the event in the form of a group.

The ICAR commenced NAHEP, a Government of India and World Bank project, in 2017 with the overall objective to support the National Agricultural Research and Education System in providing more relevant and better quality education to the students.

EKLAVYA 360°PRELIMS PROGRAM – TEST 9 Explanation

In this regard, ICAR is organizing KRITAGYA- Ag-Tech Hackathon to promote innovation in farm mechanization- A joint initiative by NAHEP and Agricultural Engineering Division. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

QUESTION) India's first Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) train will run between:

- A. Delhi to Meerut
- B. Mumbai to Ahmedabad
- C. Delhi to Chandigarh
- D. Chennai to Bengaluru

Answer: A

Explanation :

Durga Shanker Mishra, Secretary, MoHUA and Chairman, National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC), unveiled the first look of India's first RRTS train.

The state-of-the-art RRTS rolling stock will be first of its kind in India with a design speed of 180 kmph. With radiating stainless steel outer body, these aerodynamic RRTS trains will be lightweight and fully air-conditioned.

The prototype is scheduled to roll off the production line in 2022 and will be put into public use after extensive trials.

The 82 km long Delhi–Ghaziabad–Meerut Corridor is the first RRTS corridor being implemented in India. The corridor will bring down the travel time between Delhi to Meerut by around 1/3rd.

The other two Phase-I RRTS corridors are Delhi-Gurugram-SNB and Delhi-Panipat.

EKLAVYA 360°PRELIMS PROGRAM – TEST 9 Explanation

NCRTC is a joint venture of the Government of India (50%) and State Governments of Haryana (12.5%), NCT Delhi (12.5%), Uttar Pradesh (12.5%) and Rajasthan (12.5%).

It is mandated to design, construct, finance, operate and maintain RRTS in NCR and works under the administrative control of Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, GOI.

NCRTC is mandated to implement India's first RRTS in NCR. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

QUESTION) Consider the following statements:

1. He was a Guinness World Record holder for recording the highest number of songs (over 40,000).
2. He won six National Film Awards for Best Male Playback Singer for his works in four different languages; Kannada, Telugu, Tamil and Hindi.
3. He was a recipient of the Padma Shri (2001) and Padma Bhushan (2011) from the Government of India.

Above statements are about who among the following?

A.SP Balasubrahmanyam

B.Wajid Khan

C.Pandit Jasraj

D.Rahat Indori

Answer: A

Explanation :

EKLAVYA 360°PRELIMS PROGRAM – TEST 9 Explanation

President Ram Nath Kovind condoled the demise of music legend SP Balasubrahmanyam.

Sripathi Panditaradhyula Balasubrahmanyam (1946 – 2020), also referred to as S. P. Balu, S. P. B., or Balu, was an Indian playback singer and music director who worked predominantly in Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Hindi and Malayalam films. He sang over 40,000 songs in 16 Indian languages. He won six National Film Awards for Best Male Playback Singer for his works in four different languages; Kannada, Telugu, Tamil and Hindi.

In 2012, he received the state NTR National Award for his contributions to Indian cinema. He was a recipient of the Padma Shri (2001) and Padma Bhushan (2011) from the Government of India. On 25 September 2020, he died in Chennai after suffering from COVID-19. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.