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### **Question Day 14- Current Affairs**

Q1. Consider the following

1. Koodiyattam.
2. Chhau dance.
3. Traditional brass and copper craft of utensil of Thatheras.
4. Yoga

Which of the above are included in UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage list?

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

Answer: d

1. Koodiyattam: Sanskrit Theatre of Kerala.
2. Chhau dance: classical Indian dance originated in the eastern Indian states.
3. Traditional brass and copper craft of utensil of Thatheras: Punjab
4. Yoga

<http://civils360.com/2017/03/17/unesco-intangible-cultural-heritages-india-upsc-prelims/>

Q2. **Consider the following the statements with reference to ' Corporate Social Responsibility(CSR) ' :**

1. CSR applicable to companies with at least 5 crore net profit or 1000 cr turnover or 500 cr net worth.
2. Companies will have to spend 2% of their 3 year average annual net profit in CSR activities in each financial year starting from 2014-15.
3. Activities included in CSR list are – livelihood enhancement, rural development projects, preventive healthcare and sanitation, reduce inequalities faced by socially and educationally backward groups, conservation of natural resources, promotion of sports, etc.

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

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

Answer: d

**Important CSR provisions under companies act, 2013**

CSR applicable to companies with at least 5 crore net profit or 1000 cr turnover or 500 cr net worth.

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Activities included in CSR list are – livelihood enhancement, rural development projects, preventive healthcare and sanitation, reduce inequalities faced by socially and educationally backward groups, conservation of natural resources, promotion of sports, etc.

**Q3. Consider the following statements about Mercosur, which was in news recently :**

1. Mercosur is a sub-regional block of South American countries, Established in 1991.
2. At present, it is a full customs union and a trading bloc. Its full members are Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay and Venezuela.

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

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

Answer: a

Mercosur, Mercosul is a sub-regional bloc. Its full members are Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay .

Venezuela's membership was suspended on December 1, 2016.

Its associate countries are Bolivia, Chile, Peru, Colombia, Ecuador and Suriname.

Observer countries are New Zealand and Mexico.

**Q4. Consider the following statements in the context of union cabinet approving the India's negotiating position adopted at Kigali conference:**

1. In the Kigali meet, India had successfully negotiated the baseline years within a range of 2024 to 2030 and freeze year in subsequent years for phasing down the use of HFCs.
2. India will completely phase down of HFCs in 4 steps from 2032 onwards with cumulative reduction of 10% in 2032, 20% in 2037, 30% in 2042 and 85% in 2047

**Which of the above statements given above are correct?**

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

Answer: C

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**Q5. In the context of Supreme Court making National Anthem compulsory in cinema halls, consider the following statements :**

1. Jana Gana Mana first sung in INC's Calcutta session 1911
2. 42nd amendment act 1976 inserted fundamental duty Art. 51A: every citizen shall respect Constitution, flag and anthem.
3. The Prevention of Insult to National Honour Act, 1971 deals with cases of insults to the Constitution, the national flag and the national anthem and provides for penal provision for insulting these symbols.

**Which of the above statements given above are correct?**

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

Answer: a

In Shyam Narayan Chouksey case (National Anthem Order), the Supreme Court directed all cinema halls to play national anthem at the start of movies

**Legislations and Rules regarding National Symbols**

Article 51A of the Constitution makes it a fundamental duty for every citizen of India to abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the national flag and the national anthem.

The Prevention of Insult to National Honour Act, 1971 deals with cases of insults to the Constitution, the national flag and the national anthem and provides for penal provision for insulting these symbols.

Flag Code of India, 2002 is not a law but a consolidation of executive instructions issued by the Government of India from time to time and contains detailed instruction for observing such behaviour which will not disrespect the National Flag.

**Provisions of the Prevention of Insult to National Honour Act, 1971**

Section 2 of the Act provides for a maximum imprisonment of three years with or without fine for insulting the Indian national flag and the constitution of India.

Insult includes burning, mutilating, defacing, defiling, disfiguring, destroying or otherwise showing disrespect or contempt towards the national flag or the constitution.

Section 3 of the Act criminalizes insult to national anthem.

No section of this Act or Indian Penal Code, 1860 makes it mandatory for a citizen to stand up when the national anthem is being played.

**Q6. Ken and Betwa rivers which are in news regularly are the tributaries of?**

- (a) Chambal River
  - (b) Yamuna River
  - (c) Ganga
  - (d) Sonar River
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Answer: b

**Q7. The famous 'Kihoto Hollohan case, 1993' is related to which of the following ?**

- (a) Anti Defection Law
- (b) Basic Structure of Constitution
- (c) Provisions of the Prevention of Insult to National Honour Act
- (d) Armed Forces Special Powers Act

Answer : A

**Q8. Highest numbers of Tigers are present in which of the following state?**

- (a) Uttarakhand
- (b) Karnataka
- (c) Assam
- (d) Madhya Pradesh

Answer: B

**Q9. Blue ice is**

- (a) Ice sheet in Arctic
- (b) Ice found on Mars
- (c) Frozen sewage material leaked mid-flight from commercial aircraft lavatory waste systems
- (d) Ice formed in upper layers of troposphere during winters.

Answer: C

Blue ice in the context of aviation is frozen sewage material leaked mid-flight from commercial aircraft lavatory waste systems, a biowaste mixture of human waste and liquid disinfectant that freezes at high altitude. The name comes from the blue color of the disinfectant.

**Q10. Which of the following statements regarding International North South Transport Corridor (INSTC) are correct?**

1. INSTC is a multi modal transport corridor established in 2000 in St. Petersburg.
2. Iran, Russia, Pakistan and India are the founding members.
3. The purpose is promoting transportation cooperation among the Member States.
4. It was expanded to add 11 more new members from Central Asian countries.

**Which of the statements given above are correct?**

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

Answer: B

The International North–South Transport Corridor (INSTC) is a 7,200 km long[1] multi-mode network of ship, rail, and road route for moving freight between India, Russia, Iran, Europe and Central Asia. The route primarily involves moving freight from India, Iran, Azerbaijan and Russia via ship, rail and road.[2] The objective of the corridor is to increase trade connectivity between major cities such as Mumbai, Moscow, Tehran, Baku, Bandar Abbas, Astrakhan, Bandar Anzali, etc.

**Q11. Consider the following statements with respect to 'Smart Anti-Airfield Weapon (SAAW)'.**

1. SAAW is an indigenously designed and developed 120 kg class smart weapon, developed by DRDO.
2. SAAW is capable of engaging ground targets with high precision up to a range of 100 kms.

**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

The DRDO Smart Anti-Airfield Weapon (SAAW) is a long-range precision-guided anti-airfield weapon currently being developed by India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). It is designed to be capable of engaging ground targets with high precision out to a range of 100 kilometres (62 mi).

**Q12. Which of the following Central Asian country is not part of Shanghai cooperation organisation (SCO)?**

- (a) Turkmenistan
- (b) Kyrgyzstan
- (c) Kazakhstan
- (d) Tajikistan

Answer: A

**Q13. Consider the Following Statements about Agni V**

1. The long range inter-continental guided ballistic missile can carry nuclear warhead.
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2. The Agni-V is a two-stage solid fuelled missile with composite motor casing in the second and third stage.

**Which of the statements given above is/are not correct?**

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

Answer: b

Agni-V is an intercontinental ballistic missile developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) of India. Agni V is part of the Agni series of missiles, one of the missile systems under the original Integrated Guided Missile Development Program.

The Agni-V is a three-stage solid fuelled missile with composite motor casing in the second and third stage.

**Q14. Gaza strip is surrounded by?**

- (a) Israel, Lebanon and Syria
- (b) Mediterranean sea, Israel and Egypt
- (c) Mediterranean sea, Israel and Lebanon
- (d) Mediterranean sea, Israel, Egypt and Lebanon

Answer: b

**Q15. Portal E- Box was launched by**

- (a) Ministry of Human resource Development
- (b) Ministry of Women and Child Development
- (c) Ministry of Science and Technology
- (d) Ministry of External Affairs

Answer: B

Portal 'E-Box' launched by WCD Ministry to register online complaints of child sexual abuse.

**Q16. Which of the following are functions of Financial Data Management Centre (FDMC)?**

- 1. To establish, operate and maintain the financial system database, collect financial regulatory data and provide access to it.
- 2. Standardize data from all financial sector regulators in a single database.
- 3. To provide analytical support to the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) on issues relating to financial stability.

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below**

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

Answer: a

Ajay Tyagi committee constituted under the Department of Economic Affairs recommended the creation of statutory body called Financial Data Management Centre.

Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) first suggested the creation of such body after RBI objected to share company specific data with FSDC as it is not a statutory body.

So, GoI in budget 2016-17 announced the setting up of FDMC under FSDC to facilitate integrated data aggregation and analysis in financial sector.

**Key functions of FDMC**

To establish, operate and maintain the financial system database, collect financial regulatory data and provide access to it.

Standardize data from all financial sector regulators in a single database.

To provide analytical support to the FSDC on issues relating to financial stability.

Q17. **OSIRIS-Rex which was in news recently is a**

- (a) NASAs asteroid study and sample return mission.
- (b) JAXAs asteroid study and sample return mission.
- (c) NASAs mission to study dwarf planets
- (d) ESAs mission to study dwarf planets

Answer: A

Q18. **Consider the following statements :**

1. The Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) is a voluntary initiative that seeks to increase maritime co-operation among navies of the littoral states of the Indian Ocean.
2. The objective of IONS is to promote a shared understanding of the maritime issues facing the littoral nation-states of the Indian Ocean

**Which of the following statements is/are not correct?**

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

Answer: D

The 'Indian Ocean Naval Symposium' (IONS) is a voluntary initiative that seeks to increase maritime co-operation among navies of the littoral states of the Indian Ocean

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Region by providing an open and inclusive forum for discussion of regionally relevant maritime issues. In the process, it endeavours to generate a flow of information between naval professionals that would lead to common understanding and possibly cooperative solutions on the way ahead.

**Q19. Jeevan Praman, a digital initiative of government is**

- (a) A biometric enabled digital service for pensioners
- (b) A life insurance policy for Women
- (c) A life insurance policy for Army personnel
- (d) A portal for development of tribes

Answer: A

Jeevan Pramaan is a biometric enabled digital service for pensioners. Pensioners of Central Government, State Government or any other Government organization can take benefit of this facility.

**Q20. In the context of China banning all ivory trade and processing activities by the end of 2017, consider the following statements about CITES**

1. The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora is an international agreement between governments
2. It is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival
3. Although CITES is legally binding on the Parties (they have to implement the Convention), it does not take the place of national laws.

**Which of the above statements given above are correct?**

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

Answer: c

CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) is an international agreement between governments. Its aim is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival.

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