



Steeplechase to Prelims



Steeplechase to Prelims 2018 July
Compilation



17.07.2017

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding National Investment and infrastructure fund.

1. The National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) was proposed in Union Budget 2015.
2. NIIF has been set up as a Trust registered under the Indian Trust Act.
3. NIIF has been structured as a fund of funds.

Which of the above following are/is correct.

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

Answer: D

Reason: The National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) was proposed in Union Budget 2015. In the last week of December, the government has set up this Rs. 40000 crore fund to provide long term capital for infrastructure projects.

- The objective of NIIF is to maximise economic impact through infrastructure development in viable projects both greenfield and brownfield, including stalled projects, mainly in the core infra sector.
- NIIF has been structured as a fund of funds and set up as Category II Alternate Investment Fund (AIF) under the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) Regulations.
- NIIF has been set up as a Trust registered under the Indian Trust Act. The activities of NIIF will be overseen by a Governing Council, which is to be headed by Finance Minister and which has been formed to oversee the activities of NIIF.

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding Sustainable Development Goals(SDGs).

1. SDGs replaced the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which were adopted in 2000.
2. The SDGs are aimed at resolving global social, economic and environmental problems.

Which of the above following are/is correct.

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

Answer: C

Reason: The SDGs are a set of 17 goals and 169 targets aimed at resolving global social, economic and environmental problems. SDGs replaced the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which were adopted in 2000. Aiming to encompass almost every aspect of human life, the main themes of the SDGs are ending poverty, tackling inequality and combating climate change.

Performance of countries:

- Sweden leads the list, followed by Denmark and Finland. Among the G7 countries, only Germany and France can be found among the top ten performers.
- The United States ranks 42nd on the Index, while Russia and China rank 62nd and 71st respectively.



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- **India is ranked 116th** on the index with a score of 58.1, behind countries such as Nepal, Iran, Sri Lanka, Bhutan and China. Pakistan is ranked 122.

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding National Green Tribunal (NGT).

1. The tribunal deals with matters relating to the enforcement of any legal right relating to environment.
2. The prime minister is the administrative head of NGT.

Which of the above following are/is correct.

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

Answer: A

Reason: NGT 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.

- The tribunal deals with matters relating to the enforcement of any legal right relating to environment and giving relief and compensation for damages to persons and property.
- The Tribunal is not bound by the procedure laid down under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, but shall be guided by principles of natural justice.
- 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.

Members of the committee

- **Chairman:** is the administrative head of the tribunal, also serves as a judicial member and is required to be a serving or retired Chief Justice of a High Court or a judge of the Supreme Court of India.
- **Selection:** Members are chosen by a selection committee (headed by a sitting judge of the Supreme Court of India) that reviews their applications and conducts interviews.
- The Judicial members are chosen from applicants who are serving or retired judges of High Courts.

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding Railcloud.

1. NIVARAN-Grievance Portal' is the first IT application to be launched on the RailCloud.
2. Rail Cloud works on popular Cloud Computing system.

Which of the above statements are/is correct.

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

Answer: C

Reason: Rail Cloud works on popular Cloud Computing system. Most Important works are done through Cloud Computing. Cloud Computing is the emerging technology for faster and on

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demand commensurate deployment of Server resources which result in reduced cost. It is developed by rail PSU RailTel.

Q5. Chlorofluorocarbons, known as ozone depleting substances are used.

1. In the production of plastic foams
2. in the production of tubeless tyres
3. In cleaning certain electronic components
4. As pressurizing agents in aerosol cans

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

Explanation:

Q6. Which of the following are the oldest type of rock in Indian Strata?

- a. Dharwad
- b. Archean
- c. Gondwana
- d. Vindhyan

Answer: B

Reason: Archean is the oldest Rock formation. They are 4000-2500 million years old. It Covers 2/3 part of Indian peninsula. It is found in Andhra, telangana , Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and parts of Meghalaya plateau. It is Rich in Ferrous and non-ferrous minerals like iron ore, copper, manganese, mica, dolomite, lead, zinc, silver and gold.

Q7. Which of the following latitudes divides Indian into two halves?

- a. Equator
- b. Tropic of Capricorn
- c. Tropic of Cancer
- d. Arctic Circle

Answer: C

Reason: Tropic of Cancer (23 o 30'N) bifurcates India into two halves.

Q8. Which one of the following pairs of islands is separated from each other by the 'Ten Degree Channel'?

- a. Andaman and Nicobar
- b. Nicobar and Sumatra
- c. Maldives and Lakshadweep
- d. Sumatra and Java

Answer: A

Reason:

Q9 Consider the following statements regarding the coastal regions of India. Which of the following is/are true?

1. Continental shelf is wider in the eastern coast than western coast
2. Width of coastal plains is wider in west and narrower in east
3. Western coastal regions are ideal location for natural harbours
4. Eastern coastal plains are drier than western coast.

Which of the following statements are/is correct.

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

Answer: C

Reason: Western coastal regions are ideal location for natural harbours because of the absence of delta.

Q10. The Seasonal Reversal of Wind is a typical characteristic of which of the following climate?

- a. Equatorial climate
- b. Mediterranean climate
- c. Tropical Monsoon Climate
- d. Savanna climate

Answer: C

Reason: A Tropical monsoon climate, occasionally known as a tropical wet climate or a tropical monsoon. Throughout the world, the tropical monsoon climate experiences abundant rainfall like that of the tropical rainforest climate, but it is concentrated in the high-sun season. Such forests are called Tropical Monsoon Forests.

18.07.2017

Q1. Consider the following statements the Vice-President of India.

1. The vice president works as acting president when president is not available.
2. The main function is in the form of ex-officio Chairman of Rajya Sabha.

Which of the above statements are/is correct.

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

Answer: C

Reason: The officer of Vice-President is second highest public office in India. Vice-President has second rank in the order of precedence. However, practically, his office has been created to provide political continuity of the Indian state. He works as acting president when president is not available. His main function is in the form of ex-officio Chairman of Rajya Sabha. Thus, in this context, India's Vice President is equivalent to speaker of Lok Sabha.

Q2. The Dudhwa National Park is located in which state?

- Uttar Pradesh
- Madhya Pradesh
- Gujarat
- Rajasthan

Answer: A

Reason: The Dudhwa National Park is a national park in the Terai of Uttar Pradesh. It is part of the Dudhwa Tiger Reserve. It is located on the Indo-Nepal border in the Lakhimpur Kheri District, and has buffer of reserved forest areas on the northern and southern sides. It represents one of the few remaining examples of a highly diverse and productive Terai ecosystem, supporting a large number of endangered species, obligate species of tall wet grasslands and species of restricted distribution.

Q3. Which of the following are the Open Defecation Free (ODF) States of India.

- Goa
- Uttarakhand
- Sikkim
- Kerala
- Himachal Pradesh

Choose the correct codes given below:

- 1,2,3 and 4 only
- 2,3,4 and 5 only
- 1,3,4 and 5 only
- 1,2,3,4 and 5

Answer: B

Reason: The most important objective of the Swachh Bharat or Clean India Mission is to end open defecation forever in all villages by 2 October 2019 – the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

ODF is the termination of faecal-oral transmission, defined by

- no visible faeces found in the environment/village; and
- every household as well as public/community institutions using safe technology option for disposal of faeces.

http://www.huffingtonpost.in/2017/06/22/haryana-and-uttarakhand-declared-open-defecation-free-states-und_a_22583628/

Q4. Consider the following statements the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

- The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is an autonomous body.
- It is responsible for coordinating agricultural education and research in India.
- The Prime Minister serves as president of the council.

Select the correct codes given below:

- 1 only
- 1 and 2 only
- 2 and 3 only



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d. 1,2 and 3

Answer: B

Reason: The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is an autonomous body responsible for coordinating agricultural education and research in India. It reports to the Department of Agricultural Research and Education, Ministry of Agriculture. The Union Minister of Agriculture serves as its president. It is the largest network of agricultural research and education institutes in the world.

Q5. Which was the first scientific base station of India situated in Antarctica under India Antarctica Programme.

- Himansh
- IndARC
- Dakshin Gangotri
- Shilaroo

Answer: C

Reason: Dakshin Gangotri was the first scientific base station of India situated in Antarctica, part of the Indian Antarctic Program. It is located at a distance of 2,500 kilometres (1,600 mi) from the South Pole. It is currently being used as a supply base and transit camp. The Dakshin Gangotri Glacier is named after the base.

Q6. Consider the following statements:

- Freedom of speech , assembly and association
- Freedom to acquire property or to carry on any occupation, trade or business
- Right of minorities to establish and administer educational institutions
- Freedom to manage religious affairs
- Protection of life and personal liberty

Which of the above rights is/are available only to citizens of India?

- 1,2 and 4 only
- 2,3 and 5 only
- 1,2 and 3 only
- 2, 3 and 4 only

Answer: C

Reason: Rights available only to citizens:

- Freedom of speech , assembly and association
- Freedom to acquire property or to carry on any occupation, trade or business

Right of minorities to establish and administer educational institutions

Fundamental rights available to both citizens and foreigners except enemy aliens

- Freedom to manage religious affairs
- Protection of life and personal liberty

Q7. Which is not a feature of Indian constitution?

- Parliamentary form of government
- A secular state

- c. Written constitution
- d. Dual citizenship

Answer: D

Reason: Dual citizenship is not a feature of Indian constitution.

Q8. Which is the first tier or level of democratic government ?

- a. Gram Panchayat
- b. Gram Sabha
- c. Panchayati Raj
- d. None of the above

Answer: C

Reason: The Panchayati Raj system is the first tier or level of democratic government. The Panchayati Raj generally refers to the system introduced by constitutional amendment in 1992, although it is based upon the traditional panchayat system of South Asia.

Q9. Who among the below given Viceroy of India has been hailed as the 'Magna Carta' of local self-government?

- a. Lord Ripon
- b. Lord Mayo
- c. Lord Minto
- d. Lord Lytton

Answer: A

Reason: In the year 1882, the viceroy of India Lord Ripon issued a resolution of Local Self-government. The Lord Ripon's Resolution of 1882 has been hailed as the 'Magna Carta' of local self-government. The Lord Ripon is called the "Father of Local Self Government" in India.

Q10. Consider the following statements about Gram Sabha

1. Its main function is to help Gram Panchayat.
2. Gram Panchayat is answerable to Gram Sabha.

Which of the above statements are/is correct.

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

Answer: C

Reason:

- Its main function is to help Gram Panchayat.
- Gram Panchayat is answerable to Gram Sabha.
- Gram Sabha place plans before people.
- It prevent corruptions.

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Q1. Consider the following statements regarding Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA)

1. The act first enacted in Punjab and Chandigarh.
2. AFSPA act is only applicable to Northern states of India.

Which of the above statements are/is correct.

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

Answer: D

Reason: **Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA)**, are Acts of the Parliament of India that grant special powers to the Indian Armed Forces in what each act terms "disturbed areas".

- It once declared 'disturbed', the area has to maintain status quo for a minimum of 3 months.
- One such Act passed on September 11, 1958 was applicable to the Naga Hills, then part of Assam.
- In the following decades it spread, one by one, to the other Seven Sister States in India's northeast.
- Another one passed in 1983 and applicable to Punjab and Chandigarh was withdrawn in 1997, roughly 14 years after it came to force.
- The Act passed in 1990 was applied to Jammu and Kashmir and has been in force since.

The Acts have received criticism from several sections for alleged concerns about human rights violations in the regions of its enforcement alleged to have happened.

Q2. Which of the following pairs are correct ?

- 1) Magadha - The first big Kingdom
- 2) Manuscripts - Written by hands
- 3) Ganga Valley - Early agriculture

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

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

Answer: B

Reason:

- Magadha was known as the first big kingdom because its rulers was very powerful, and set up a large kingdom.
- In ancient times the scripts are written in the language called Manuscript. It means they were written by hand (the word comes from the Latin word word 'manu' , meaning hand). These were usually written on palm leaf, or on the specially prepared bark of a tree known as the birch, which grows in the himalayas.
- Ganga valley is known for cities about 2500 years ago

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Q3. The study of inscriptions on rocks, pillars and building is called:

- Linguology
- Epigraphy
- Numismatics
- Archeology

Answer: B

Reason: Epigraphy is the study of inscriptions or epigraphs as writing; it is the science of identifying graphemes, clarifying their meanings, classifying their uses according to dates and cultural contexts, and drawing conclusions about the writing and the writers.

Q4. The Harappan script is boustrophedon. Boustrophedon scripts are:

- All pictographic scripts.
- Written from right to left
- Written from left to right
- Written from right to left in first line and left to right in other and so on.

Choose the correct answer using the codes given below

- 1 and 2 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 2 and 4 only
- 4 only

Answer: D

Reason: Boustrophedon is writing that proceeds in one direction in one line (such as from left to right) and then in the reverse direction in the next line (such as from right to left). Some ancient languages, including one form of ancient Greek (650 BC), were written this way. The term derives from the way one would plow land with an ox, turning the ox back in the other direction at the end of a row.

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding WHO

- WHO is the first global health organization absorbing many regional and national health bodies
- It has the authority of directing and coordinating matters related to International health.

Which of the above following are/is correct.

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

Reason: WHO is the first global health organization absorbing many regional and national health bodies.

- It has 194 member countries and its secretariat is located in Geneva, Switzerland.
- It has the authority of directing and coordinating matters related to International health.
- World Health Assembly – It is the supreme decision making body of WHO, attended by delegations from all member states.

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- It meets in Geneva in May each year. 70th World Health Assembly will be held this year in Geneva.
- Executive Board – It is to implement the decision and policies of the World Health Assembly.

Q6. Which of the following metals were used by the Indus valley people ?

1. Copper
2. Tin
3. Silver
4. Iron

Choose the correct answer using the codes given below

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

Answer: B

Reason: The Indus valley people knew the use of copper, bronze, silver, gold but not **iron**.

Q7. Consider the following statements.

1. Rig Veda is the oldest Veda and written completely in prose form.
2. Yajurveda is the second veda written both in prose and poetry form.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: B

Reason:

- **Rig Veda** is written in the form of Shlokas (Poetry) and not prose.
- **Yajurveda:** This was the second Veda to be composed after the Rig Veda. It consists of rituals of sacrifices and yajna.
- It is broadly divided into two parts Sweta Yajurveda and Shyam Yajurveda.
- Shweta Yajurveda is in Poetic form while Shyama Yajurveda is in prose form.

Q8. Consider the following statements regarding United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

1. Its help countries to eliminate poverty and achieve sustainable human development
2. The status of UNDP is that of an executive board within the United Nations General Assembly.

Which of the above statements are/is correct

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2

d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

Reason: UNDP is an UN organization formed in 1965 to help countries eliminate poverty and achieve sustainable human development, an approach to economic growth that emphasizes improving the quality of life of all citizens while conserving the environment and natural resources for future generations.

- The status of UNDP is that of an executive board within the United Nations General Assembly.
- UNDP is working to strengthen new frameworks for development, disaster risk reduction and climate change.
- UNDP also encourages the protection of human rights and the empowerment of women in all of its programs

Q9. Consider the following statements:

1. Santhara is a process of conversion of a person into a Jain monk.
2. Chandragupta Maurya went Shraavanabelagola and performed Santhara.

Which of the above statements are incorrect?

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

Answer: A

Reason: Santhara is a voluntary Jain practice of fast unto death. A person stops eating and drinking till his death. The aim is to remove all karma from one life to attain Nirvana from the life cycles. According to a legend, Chandragupta Maurya went to South (Karnataka), Shraavanabelagola with a Jain monk Bhadrabahu. There he performed Santhara.

Santhara is a kind of suicide and is banned in India. Recently it was in the news as a girl tried to perform Santhara. It again started a debate for Euthanasia (voluntary death).

Q10. Consider the following statements regarding SCRAMJET engine.

1. Scramjet engines works on the principle of Air-breathing propulsion system.
2. India became fourth country in the world to have scramjet engine .

Which of the above statements are/is correct.

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

Answer: C

Reason:

- Scramjet stands for Supersonic Combusting RAMJET. It is a variant of a Ramjet engine in which combustion takes place in supersonic airflow, while in Ramjet the combustion takes place in subsonic airflow.

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- Scramjet engines works on the principle of Air-breathing propulsion system. In which the engine utilizes oxygen from the atmosphere for combustion.
- Where, it does not have a compressor or rotating parts to compress the air, instead, it uses its high-speed forward motion to compress the air.
- It reduces the lift-off mass of the vehicle, since it does not carry on board liquefied oxygen and thus it turns cost effective by increasing the energy efficiency of rocket.
- Recently, ISRO had tested its Scramjet engine with the help of Advanced Technology Vehicle, named as RH 560 which was able to fly at Mach 6.
- With this, India became fourth country in the world to have scramjet engine next to US, Russia and European Space Agency.
- Dual mode Ramjet is a type of jet engine where a ramjet transforms into scramjet over the Mach speed of 4-8 range, which means it can efficiently operate both in subsonic and supersonic combustion modes

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Q1. Which is the hard layer of the earth?

- a. Troposphere
- b. Lithosphere
- c. Stratosphere
- d. Asthenosphere

Answer: B

Reason: Lithosphere is the solid crust or the hard top layer of the earth. It is made up of rocks and minerals and covered by a thin layer of soil. It is an irregular surface with various landforms such as mountains, plateaus, plains, valleys, etc. Landforms are found over the continents and also on the ocean floors.

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).

1. It is a proposed free trade agreement (FTA) between ASEAN member states.
2. All ASEAN members are not a member of RCEP.

Which of the above statements are/is correct

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

Answer: C

Reason: Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) is a proposed free trade agreement (FTA) between the ten member states of the ASEAN and the six states with which ASEAN has existing free trade agreements -Australia, China, India, Japan, South Korea and New Zealand.

- Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam are ASEAN members.
- RCEP is viewed as an alternative to the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), a proposed trade agreement which includes several Asian and American nations but excludes China and India.
- The arrangement is also open to any other external economic partners, such as nations in Central Asia and remaining nations in South Asia and Oceania.
- In 2017, US President Trump signed a memorandum that stated withdrawal of the US from the TPP, a move which is seen to improve the chances of success for RCEP.
- RCEP will cover trade in goods, trade in services, investment, economic and technical co-operation, intellectual property, competition, dispute settlement and other issues.
- Negotiations of RCEP will aim to achieve the high level of tariff liberalisation, through building upon the existing liberalisation levels between participating countries.
- The RCEP takes into account the East Asia Free Trade Agreement (EAFTA) and the Comprehensive Economic Partnership in East Asia (CEPEA) initiatives, with the difference that the RCEP is not working on a predetermined membership.



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- Instead, it is based on open accession which enables participation of any of the ASEAN FTA partners (China, Korea, Japan, India and Australia-New Zealand).

Q3. Consider the statements regarding International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

1. ICAO was created after the Chicago convention on International Civil Aviation.
2. ICAO introduced a market based measure for international aviation to measure carbon emission called as —CORSA.

Which of the above statements are/is correct.

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

Answer: C

Reason: ICAO was created after the Chicago convention on International Civil Aviation.

It became a specialized agency of the United Nations linked to Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Its secretariat is located in Montreal, Canada. It sets standards and regulations necessary for aviation safety, security, efficiency as well as for aviation environmental protection. Recently, ICAO introduced a market based measure for international aviation to measure carbon emission called as —CORSA – Carbon Offsetting and Reporting Scheme for International Aviation.

Q4. Which of the following are the tributaries of Ganga.

1. Son River
2. Ghaghara River
3. Amaravati River
4. Yamuna River

Select the correct codes given below

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

Answer: C

Reason: The Ganges, also Ganga is a trans-boundary river of Asia which flows through the nations of India and Bangladesh. The river rises in the western Himalayas in the Indian state of Uttarakhand, and flows south and east through the Gangetic Plain of North India into Bangladesh, where it empties into the Bay of Bengal. It is the third largest river in the world by discharge.

The main tributaries of river Ganga is Son River, Ghaghara River, Ghaghara River and Ghaghara River.

Q5. Which amongst the following gases, has the highest concentration in the atmosphere?

- a. CO₂
- b. Argon
- c. Neon



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d. Helium

Answer: B

Reason: Argon is the third highest gas in the atmosphere (.93%) after Nitrogen (78%) and Oxygen (21%). Carbon-dioxide is 0.03%. People generally get confused between CO₂ and Ar.

Q6. Consider the following statement

Usually the temperature decreases with an increase in height. This average rate of change of temperature is called:

- Normal lapse rate
- Insolation
- Albedo
- Adiabatic lapse rate

Answer: A

Reason: The average rate of change of temperature with height in troposphere is called Normal lapse rate. It is 6.4 °C/km. The actual rate of decrease in temperature is different at different places. That is called Local Lapse rate or environmental lapse rate.

Q7. Consider the following statements regarding

- CWC is an arms control treaty that outlaws the production, stockpiling, and use of chemical weapons.
- Chlorine gas is not officially listed as a chemical weapon.

Which of the above statements are/is correct.

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

Reason:

- CWC is an arms control treaty that outlaws the production, stockpiling, and use of chemical weapons and their precursors.
- It is administered by the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), an intergovernmental organization based in The Hague, Netherlands.
- Any chemical used for warfare is considered a chemical weapon by the Convention.
- The parties' main obligation under the convention is to effect this prohibition, as well as the destruction of all current chemical weapons.
- 192 states have given their consent to be bound by the CWC.
- Israel has signed but not ratified the agreement, while three other UN member states (Egypt, North Korea and South Sudan) have neither signed nor acceded to the treaty.
- Most recently, Angola deposited its instrument of accession to the CWC.
- The convention has provisions for systematic evaluation of chemical production facilities, as well as for investigations of allegations of use and production of chemical weapons based on intelligence of other state parties.

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- Some chemicals which have been used extensively in warfare but have numerous large-scale industrial uses such as phosgene are highly regulated, however certain notable exceptions exist.
- Chlorine gas is highly toxic, but being widely used for peaceful purposes, is not officially listed as a chemical weapon.
- Certain state-powers (eg. the Assad regime of Syria) continue to regularly manufacture and implement such chemicals in combat ammunitions.
- Although these chemicals are not specifically listed as controlled by the CWC, the use of any toxic chemical as a weapon is in-and-of itself forbidden by the treaty.
- Other chemicals, such as white phosphorous, are highly toxic but are legal under the CWC when they are used by military forces for reasons other than their toxicity.
- Chemicals have few or no uses outside chemical weapons may be produced or used for research, medical, pharmaceutical or chemical weapon defence testing purposes but production above 100 grams per year must be declared to the OPCW.
- A country is limited to possessing a maximum of 1 tonne of these materials.
- Examples are sulfur mustard and nerve agents.
- Chemicals which have legitimate small-scale applications can be manufactured must be declared and there are restrictions on export to countries that are not CWC signatories.
- An example is thiodiglycol which can be used in the manufacture of mustard agents, but is also used as a solvent in inks.

21.07.2017

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding Inland Waterways Authority of India(IWAI).

1. It is the autonomous authority in charge of the waterways in India.
2. The national waterways comes under the purview of central government and Inland waterways authority of a India.

Which of the above statements are/is **not** correct.

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

Answer: A

Reason: Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) is the statutory authority in charge of the waterways in India. Its headquarters is located in Noida, UP. It does the function of building the necessary infrastructure in these waterways, surveying the economic feasibility of new projects and also administration.

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding GSAT-17

1. GSAT-17 communication satellite will be placed in the geostationary orbit.
2. The satellite will provide meteorological and satellite-based data to help rescue services.

Which of the following statements are/is correct.

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

Answer: C

Reason:

- The satellite has been inducted into the Indian National Satellite (INSAT)/GSAT system. It carried payloads in the normal C, extended C and S bands, providing various communication services.
- It was launched into a Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO).
- GSAT-17 also has equipment for meteorological data relay and satellite-based search and rescue services being provided by earlier INSAT satellites.
- ISRO's Master Control Facility (MCF) at Hassan in Karnataka has taken control and will perform the initial orbit raising maneuvers later. GSAT-17 has a life expectancy of 15 years.

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding National legal service authority (NALSA).

1. Its aims to provide free legal services to weaker sections of society.
2. It has been constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

Which of the following statements are/is correct.

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

Answer: C

Reason: National Legal Services Authority of India (NALSA) was formed on 5 December 1995 under the authority of the Legal Services Authorities Act 1987. Its purpose is to provide free legal services to eligible candidates and to organize Lok Adalats for speedy resolution of cases. The Chief Justice of India is patron-in-chief of NALSA while second senior most judge of Supreme Court of India is the Executive-Chairman. There is a provision for similar mechanism at state and district level also headed by Chief Justice of High Courts and Chief Judges of District courts respectively. The prime objective of NALSA is speedy disposal of cases and reducing the burden of judiciary.

Q4. What does the term popular sovereignty mean?

- a. Supreme power by the Constitution
- b. Possession of the supreme power by the people
- c. Possession of the supreme power by the government that the people elect
- d. None of the above

Answer: B

Reason: Popular sovereignty means it is a doctrine in political theory that government is created by and subject to the will of the people.

Q5. The term unity and integrity of the nation in the preamble embraces

- a. Psychological integration
- b. Territorial integration
- c. Political integration

- d. Both territorial and psychological integration.

Answer: D

Reason:

Q6.. Which is not a feature of Indian constitution?

- a. Parliamentary form of government
- b. A secular state
- c. Written constitution
- d. Dual citizenship

Answer: D

Reason:

Q7.. Which are the features of federal system of government?

- 1. Bicameralism
- 2. Division of power
- 3. Supremacy of the constitution
- 4. Single citizenship

Choose the correct codes given below:

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

Answer: B

Reason: The main federal features of the Indian Constitution are as follows:

- Written Constitution
- Supremacy of the Constitution
- Rigid Constitution
- Division of Powers
- Independent Judiciary
- Bicameral Legislature
- Dual Government Polity

24/07/2017

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding Ice shelf.

- 1. It is a floating extension of land-based glaciers which flow into the ocean.
- 2. Project MIDAS is a UK-based antarctic research project, investigating the effects of a warming climate on the ice shelf.
- 3. The melting of Ice shelf increase the sea level.

Which of the above statements are correct.

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



Steeplechase to Prelims

d. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B

Reason: It is a floating extension of land-based glaciers which flow into the ocean.

As they already float in the ocean, their melting does not directly contribute to sea-level rise.

The breaking of ice shelves is a natural process but global warming is thought to have accelerated this process. In recent decades many major ice shelves have disintegrated or lost substantial volume like Prince Gustav channel, Larsen Inlet, Wordie, Muller, Jones Channel, Wilkins, Larsen A, Larsen B, etc.

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding NAVIC

1. It is an independent Indian satellite based on positioning system.
2. It consists of group seven satellites, out of which three were in geostationary orbit and four were in geosynchronous orbit.

Which of the above statements are/is correct.

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

Answer: C

Reason:

- NaVIC or IRNSS is an independent Indian satellite based positioning system designed to provide accurate position information service.
- IRNSS provides two types of services, namely, Standard Positioning Service (SPS), which is provided to all the users and Restricted Service (RS), which is an encrypted service provided only to the authorized users.
- It consists of group seven satellites, out of which three were in geostationary orbit and four were in geosynchronous orbit. It provides service to the entire India beyond that it can cover 1500 km in all the directions of the country.
- Some of its applications were Navigation, Fleet management, Disaster management, Integration with mobile phones, Visual and voice navigation .

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding South Asia Satellite.

1. The South Asia Satellite is also known as GSAT-9
2. It provides service to all SAARC countries.

Which of the above statements are/is correct.

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

Answer: A

Reason:

- It is otherwise called as “GSAT-9”, launched by GSLV-F09.
- It’s a kind of geosynchronous meteorological cum communication satellite.

Steeplechase to Prelims

- It provides services to all the SAARC countries except Pakistan.
- Out of these SAARC countries Sri Lanka and Afghanistan already have communication satellites developed with the help of China and India respectively.

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding BRAHMOS.

1. It is developed by joint collaboration of India and Russia.
2. It is capable of being launched from land, sea, sub-sea and air against surface and sea-based targets.
3. Brahmos-I is a short range ramjet supersonic cruise missile.

Which of the above statements are/is correct.

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

Answer: D

Reason:

- It is a product of joint collaboration between India and Russia and it is capable of being launched from land, sea, sub-sea and air against surface and sea-based targets.
- Thus it called as world's first and only supersonic anti-ship cruise missile in the current date.
- The range of the supersonic missile was initially capped at 290 km as per the obligations of the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR).
- Since India's entry into the club, the range has been extended to 450 km and the plan is to increase it to 600km.
- It is made up of Two Stage solid propellant that operates on "Fire and Forget" principle.
- Brahmos-I is a short range ramjet supersonic cruise missile that travels at a speed of Mach 2.8 to 3.0 and has a maximum range of 290 km.
- Brahmos-II or Brahmos(K) is being designed to fly more than 300 km at a speed of Mach 7 by using Scramjet engine.
- Brahmos-III or Brahmos (NG) is still being in the planning stage, superior to DF-21.

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding National Green Tribunal (NGT).

1. It is enacted under the National Green Tribunal act , it is a federal legislation enacted by the Parliament of India, under India's constitutional provision of Article 21.
2. It is a specialized body equipped to handle environmental disputes involving multi-disciplinary issues.

Which of the above statements are/is correct.

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

Answer: C

Steeplechase to Prelims

Reason: The National Green Tribunal has been established under the National Green Tribunal Act 2010. The National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 (NGT) is a federal legislation enacted by the Parliament of India, under India's constitutional provision of Article 21, which assures the citizens of India the right to a healthy environment. The tribunal itself is a special fast-track court to handle the expeditious disposal of the cases pertaining to environmental issues.

- 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.
- The Tribunal's dedicated jurisdiction in environmental matters shall provide speedy environmental justice and help reduce the burden of litigation in the higher courts.

Q6. Consider the following statements regarding National Rural Health Mission(NRHM).

1. It focus on providing fully functional, community owned and decentralised health delivery system in rural areas.
2. The Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram (JSSK) is an initiative by NRHM.

Which of the above statements are/is correct.

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

Answer: C

Reason: NRHM aims to provide Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Health and Adolescent (RMNCH+A) services to the rural deprived people through its network of ASHA, ANMs and AWWs.

- It focus on providing fully functional, community owned and decentralised health delivery
- system in rural areas.
- NRHM, also called NRHM-RCH Flexipool is one of the components of NHM and is for all towns and villages below the population of 50,000.

Various initiatives under NRHM

- Accredited social health activists
- JananiSurakshaYojana
- JananiShishuSurakshaKaryakram (JSSK)
- RashtriyaBalSwasthyaKaryakram (RBSK)
- Mainstreaming AYUSH – revitalizing local health tradition.

Q7. Consider the following statements regarding KUIPER BELT.

1. Kuiper Belt is the region of that lies beyond the orbit of Saturn.
2. It consists of Comets, Asteroids and smaller icy particles called as Planetesimals.

Which of the above statements are/is correct.

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

Answer: B

Reason: Kuiper Belt is the region of that lies beyond the orbit of Neptune. It consists of Comets, Asteroids and smaller icy particles called as Planetesimals. It is a home to officially recognized dwarf planets such as Pluto, Haumea and Makemake. Out of which Pluto is the most massive member of Kuiper belt.

Q8. Consider the following statements regarding SOFIA Observatory.

1. SOFIA stands for Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy
2. SOFIA is the successor to the Kuiper Airborne Observatory of NASA.

Which of the above statements are/is correct.

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

Answer: C

Reason: SOFIA stands for Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy. It is a joint project of NASA and German Aerospace Center (DLR) to construct and maintain an airborne Observatory. SOFIA is the successor to the Kuiper Airborne Observatory of NASA. Recently, it had found a new planetary system around the star Epsilon Eridani, on-fifth of the age of the sun is located just 10.5 light years away in the southern section of the constellation Eridanus, which has been found to have similar planetary system like our solar system.

Q9. Consider the following set of pairs.

1. Vitamin A - Nerve function
2. Vitamin B12 - Vision and skin
3. Vitamin K - Blood clotting

Which of the above pairs are/is NOT correct.

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

Answer: B

Reason:

- Vitamin A promotes healthy vision and skin, and it also supports bone and tooth growth. In addition, vitamin A helps your immune system and is important in the reproductive process. Finally, vitamin A enables your heart, kidneys, lungs, and other organs to work properly.
- Vitamin B12 promotes healthy nerve function and also helps your body make new cells. It can also help you lower your risk of heart disease because it breaks down fatty and amino acids.
- Vitamin K is important for blood clotting and promotes bone health. Scientists are studying its effect on reducing the risk of coronary heart disease and osteoporosis.

Q10. Which of the following diseases can be transmitted from one person to another through poor hygiene?

1. Trachoma
2. Cancer
3. Cysticercosis

Choose the correct codes given below.

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

Answer: C

Reason: Trachoma and Cysticercosis can be transmitted from one person to another through poor hygiene.

25/07/2017 Day 8

Q1. Arrange the following in their order of occurrence.

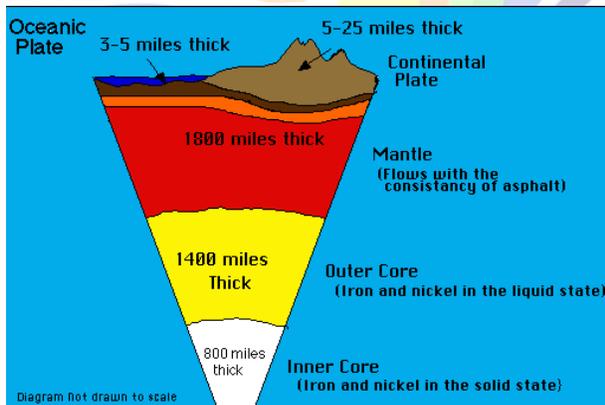
1. Outer Core
2. Asthenosphere
3. Continental Plate
4. Inner Core

Choose the correct codes given below.

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

Answer: C

Reason:



Q2. Which of the following are the factors generates Ocean currents.

1. Centrifugal force
2. Gravitational force of Moon.
3. Salinity of water
4. Temperature Gradient

Choose the correct codes given below.

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

Answer: C

Reason: Ocean currents can be generated by wind, density differences in water masses caused by temperature and salinity variations, gravity, and events such as earthquakes.

Q3. Which of the following factors generating Soil formation.

1. Topography
2. Time
3. Climate
4. Relief
5. Decomposition

Choose the correct codes given below.

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 3 and 4 only
- d. 4 and 5 only

Answer: B

Reason: Soils form from the interplay of five main factors namely Parent material, Time, Climate, Relief and Organisms.

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding Coastal plains of India.

1. Eastern Coastal and Western Coastal Plain are formed by the erosional and depositional activity.
2. The Gujarat coastal plains are built up with alluvium soil.
3. The Tamilnadu coast is called Coromandel coast while Odisha and West Bengal coast is called Canara coast.

Which of the above statements are/is correct.

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

Answer: B

Reason: To the east and west of the peninsular plateau, two narrow strips of plain lands are found, which are respectively called Eastern Coastal Plain and Western Coastal Plain.

Eastern Coastal and Western Coastal Plain are formed by the erosional and depositional & activities of the Sea waves and from the sediments brought by the peninsular rivers.

Western coastal plain

- Western coastal plain is 10 to 15 km wide and is narrower than eastern coastal plain.

Western coast is divided into 4 parts:

- Kathiawar coast (Gujarat coast)
- Konkan coast (Maharashtra coast)
- Canara coast (Karnataka coast)
- Malabar coast (Kerala coast)
- The Gujarat coastal plains are built up by alluvium brought by Sabarmati, Mahi, Narmada and Tapti rivers, all of which form large estuaries.
- Malabar coast contains lakes, lagoons and backwaters locally called Kayals and Vembanad Lake (Kerala) is largest of such backwater lakes.

Eastern Coastal plain

- Eastern coastal plain is 50 to 60 km wide and is broader than western coastal plain
- The eastern coast is mainly emergent type i.e. its outline is regular and is characterized by offshore bars, sea beaches, sand ridges and lagoons.
- Tamil Nadu coast is called *Coromandel coast* while Odisha and West Bengal coast is called *Northern Circar coast*.
- Most of the east flowing rivers follow zig-zag path and are more border as compared to west flowing rivers. So, these east flowing rivers form delta whereas west flowing rivers (like Narmada and Tapti) form estuary.

Q5. Which of the rivers flows in Eastward direction?

1. Narmada
2. Tapi
3. Mahanadi
4. Krishna

Choose the correct codes given below.

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

Answer: C

Reason:

East flowing rivers	West flowing rivers
The Ganga, the Brahmaputra, the Mahanadi, the Godavari, the Krishna, the Cauvery, the Penneru, the Pennaiyar, the Vaigai, and the Subarnarekha	The Indus, the Narmada, the Tapi, the Sabarmati, the Mahi, the Ghagghar, the Luni, the Saravati, the Pumba, the Periyar, the Bharatpuja and the large number of swift flowing western coast rivers descending from the Sahyadris.

Q6. Consider the following statements regarding National Air Quality Index (AQI).

1. It is an index for reporting daily air quality.
2. It is outlined as “One Number- One Colour-One Description” for the common man to judge the air quality within his vicinity.

Which of the above statements are/is correct.

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

Answer: C

Reason:

- It is an index for reporting daily air quality.
- It tells how clean or polluted your air is, and what associated health effects might be a concern.
- It is published for every month by CPCB along with a numerical value and a colour code which helps in comparing air pollution levels in cities.
- It is outlined as „One Number- One Colour-One Description“ for the common man to judge the air quality within his vicinity.
- The proposed AQI will consider eight pollutants (PM10, PM2.5, NO2, SO2, CO, O3, NH3, and Pb).

Q7. Consider the following statements regarding Hamari Dharohar Scheme.

1. It was launched by Ministry of Minority affairs for preservation of rich heritage and culture of minority communities of India.
2. The Funding under the scheme is project based and not State/District-wise.

Which of the above statements are/is correct.

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

Answer: C

Reason: It was launched by Ministry of Minority affairs for preservation of rich heritage and culture of minority communities of India. The Funding under the scheme is project based and not State/District-wise. It aims to support curating iconic exhibitions, calligraphy, research and development, etc. A project has been initiated to translate documents belonging to medieval period on the subjects of Medicines, Mathematics, and Literature from Arabic language to English.

Q8. World's first floating wind farm is situated in

- a. USA
- b. Scotland
- c. Australia
- d. canada

Answer: B

Reason: The wind farm, known as Hywind, is the full-scale floating wind farm being built in Scotland. It has turbines taller than Britain's wind farm "Big Ben". The technology will allow wind power to be harvested in waters that are too deep for the existing bottom-standing turbines.

Q9. Consider the following statements regarding Alluvial Soil.

1. It is transported by soils
2. It is low fertile
3. The soils cover about 40 per cent of the total area of the country.

Choose the correct codes given below:

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

Answer: C

Reason: Alluvial soils, the depositional soils transported by rivers, are the predominant type of soil in the northern plains of the country, widespread in the Ganga plains and the river valleys. These soils cover about 40 per cent of the total area of the country. Apart from the northern Gangetic plains, via a narrow corridor in Rajasthan, they extend into the plains of Gujarat.

In the Peninsular region, they are found in deltas of the east coast such as Mahanadi, Godavari and Krishna. The alluvial soils are generally rich in potash but poor in phosphorous.

In the Upper and Middle Ganga plain, two different types of alluvial soils have developed, viz. Khadar and Bhangar. Khadar is the new alluvium and is deposited by floods annually, which enriches the soil by depositing fine silts. Bhangar represents a system of older alluvium, deposited away from the flood plains. Both the Khadar and Bhangar soils contain calcareous concretions (Kankars). These soils are more loamy and clayey in the lower and middle Ganga plain and the Brahmaputra valley. The sand content decreases from the west to east.

The colour of the alluvial soils varies from the light grey to ash grey. Its shades depend on the depth of the deposition, the texture of the materials, and the time taken for attaining maturity. Alluvial soils are intensively cultivated. Coastal Alluvium: Please note that the alluviums of the peninsular coastal strip are darker in colour than the alluvium of the northern plains because the rivers of the peninsula flow over the Deccan Plateau composed of basalt, and over black soil are only to deposit it in coastal areas. Maharashtra has no alluvial soils but coastal alluvium is found in that state.

Q10. Which of the following are examples of chemical weathering process?

1. Carbonation
2. Hydration
3. Oxidation and reduction
4. Freezing, thawing and frost wedging

Choose the correct codes given below:

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

Answer: C

Reason: A group of weathering processes viz; solution, carbonation, hydration, oxidation and reduction act on the rocks to decompose, dissolve or reduce them to a fine clastic state through



Steeplechase to Prelims

chemical reactions by oxygen, surface and/or soil water and other acids. Freezing, thawing and frost wedging are physical weathering processes.

27.07.2017

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding Bilateral Investment treaty (BITs).

1. BITs are established through trade pacts.
2. It is also known as foreign direct investment.

Which of the above statements are/is correct.

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

Answer: C

Reason:

- A bilateral investment treaty (BIT) is an agreement establishing the terms and conditions for private investment by nationals and companies of one state in another state.
- The existing BIT's are negotiated based on the Model BIT text adopted in 1993 and amended in 2003.
- The process of reviewing and revising the existing BITs was started in 2015 and the negotiations on revised Model BITs are being carried out with USA, Russia and EU.
- BIT includes fair and equitable treatment, protection from expropriation, free transfer of means and full protection and security.
- BITs are established through trade pacts and they allow for an alternative dispute resolution mechanism, through an Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS).
- BITs help to project India as an attractive Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) destination, as well as protect outbound Indian FDI.
- It boosts the confidence of investors by assuring a minimum standard of treatment and non-discrimination.

Q2. Consider the following statements about Carnatic war.

1. The commercial and maritime rivalry between French and British is the main cause of the war.
2. The Carnatic war put an end to the French ambitions to create a colonial empire in India.
3. The Carnatic war came to an end by signing Treaty of Paris in 1763.

Which of the above statements are/is correct.

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

Answer: C



Steeplechase to Prelims

Reason:

Q3. During the company rule, the Hindu Widows Remarriage Act was drafted by

- a. Lord Canning
- b. Lord Dalhousie
- c. Raja Rammohun Roy
- d. Lord Minto

Answer: B

Reason: The Hindu Widow Remarriage Act 1856 enacted on 25 July 1856, legalised the remarriage of Hindu widows in all jurisdictions of India under East India Company rule was drafted by Lord Dalhousie

Q4. In 4th Anglo – Mysore war, Tipu Sultan was conclusively defeated by which of the following Governor General's?

- a. Warren Hastings
- b. John Shore
- c. Wellesley
- d. Dalhousie

Answer: C

Reason: The circumstances which led to the Fourth Mysore War can be summarized as follows: Tipu Sultan wanted to avenge his humiliating defeat and the terms imposed on him by the British. He also aimed at making Mysore a strong state. Tipu worked continuously to secure help to fight British imperialism. He took efforts to seek the help of the France, Arabia, Kabul and Turkey. He corresponded with the Revolutionary French Government in July 1798. At Srirangapattinam, a Jacobian Club was started and the flag of the French

Republic was hoisted. The tree of Liberty was also planted.

Q5. The Carnatic Wars were fought between which of the two Powers?

- a. Hyderabad and Tanjore
- b. British and French
- c. British and Marathas
- d. French and Mysore

Answer: B

Reason: In the 18th century, three Carnatic Wars were fought between various Indian rulers and British and French East India Company on either side. These wars resulted in establishment of political supremacy of British East India Company. The French company was reduced in the

Steeplechase to Prelims

areas around Pondicherry only. Commercial and maritime rivalry between France and England was the primary reason behind these wars. The entire south India was divided into minor Rajas, Nawabs and petty chieftains who fought with each other for supremacy. British and French took opposite sides to support these rivals and increase their own dominance.

Q6. The smallest division of geological time is

- a. Eon
- b. Millennium
- c. Eras
- d. Stage

Answer: D

Reason: The geologic time scale (GTS) is a system of chronological dating that relates geological strata (stratigraphy) to time, and is used by geologists, paleontologists, and other Earth scientists to describe the timing and relationships of events that have occurred during Earth's history.

The first principal subdivision is called the eon. An eon, the largest division of the geologic time scale, spans hundreds to thousands of millions of years. Geologists generally agree that there are two major eons: the Precambrian eon and the Phanerozoic eon. Eons are made up of eras, divisions that span time periods of tens to hundreds of millions of years. The three major eras are the Paleozoic, the Mesozoic, and the Cenozoic. The Cenozoic era is the one we are in today. It began 65 million years ago, right about the time that the dinosaurs went extinct. Period is one of several subdivisions of geologic time enabling cross-referencing of rocks and geologic events from place to place. These periods form elements of a hierarchy of divisions into which geologists have split the earth's history. An Epoch is a subdivision of the geologic timescale that is longer than an age and shorter than a period.

Q7. Which of the following should be the characteristics of a pollutant for biomagnifications to occur?

1. Long lived
2. Soluble in water
3. Soluble in fat
4. Mobile

Choose the correct code from the following:

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

Answer: C

Reason:

- In order for biomagnifications to occur, the pollutant must be: mobile, fat soluble and long lived.
- If a pollutant is short lived, it will be broken down before it can become dangerous.

Steeplechase to Prelims

- If a pollutant is soluble in water, it will be excreted by the organism. On contrary if it is fat soluble it will stay for a longer time.
- If it is not mobile, it will stay at one place and is unlikely to be taken up by many organisms.

Q8. Consider the following statements regarding Indian National Army(INA).

1. The idea of the INA was first conceived in Malaya by Mohan singh.
2. The outbreak of the Quit India Movement gave a fillip to the INA.

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

Reason: The idea of the INA was first conceived in Malaya by Mohan Singh, an Indian officer of the British Indian Army, when he decided not to join the retreating British army and instead went to the Japanese for help. The Japanese had till then only encouraged civilian Indians to form anti-British organizations, but had no conception of forming a military wing consisting of Indians. Indian prisoners of war were handed over by the Japanese to Mohan Singh who then tried to recruit them into an Indian National Army.

Q9. Which among the following that had led to the Jallianwala Bagh massacre?

- a. Arms Act
- b. Rowlatt Act
- c. Public Safety Bill
- d. Indian Press act

Answer: B

Reason: This act authorized the government to imprison for a maximum period of two years, without trial, any person suspected of terrorism. The act provided speedy trial of the offenses by a special cell that consisted of 3 High Court Judges. There was no court of appeal above that panel. This panel could also accept the evidences which were not even acceptable in the Indian Evidences Act. Thus in succession, the Government passed Montagu Chelmsford Reforms and Rowlatt Act that were part of the Carrot and Stick policy of the British. This act gave a new direction to the movement. Gandhi organized a mass protest at all India level. By March 23, 1919, the volunteers started courting arrests. The three organizations viz, the Home Rule league, Muslim league and the Satyagraha Sabha along with some other small organizations coordinated and organized the biggest Satyagraha ever. On April 6, 1919, an all India strike was organized. There was mob violence in Bombay, Ahmedabad and all other major towns. The Satyagraha lost momentum with the Jallianwala Bagh tragedy on April 13, 1919.

Q10. Which of the following statements regarding extra-tropical cyclones is/are correct?

1. It moves from west to east.
2. It starts with stationary front and dissipates with Occluded front.
3. It can originate over the sea and the land.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Answer: A

Reason: Extra tropical cyclones form along the polar front. Initially, the front is stationary. The cyclonic circulation leads to a well developed extratropical cyclone, with a warm front and a cold front. The cold front moves faster than the warm front. The warm air glides over the cold air and is completely lifted up and the front is occluded and the cyclone dissipates.

28.07.2017

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding Sagar Vani.

1. It is an app developed by Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation on the occasion of Foundation Day of Ministry of Earth Sciences.
2. It has launched for dissemination of earthquake parameters.

Which of the above statements are/is correct.

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

Answer: D

Reason: Sagar Vani

- Sagar Vani is an app developed by Ministry of Science & Technology, Earth Sciences and Environment, Forests & Climate Change, on the occasion of Foundation Day of Ministry of Earth Sciences.
- It is an integrated Information dissemination system serving fishermen community with the advisories and alerts towards their livelihood as well as their safety at Sea.
- The information to be disseminated is given by INCOIS under Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES).
- The system also has facility to provide access to various stakeholders NGOs, State Fishery Departments, Disaster Management Authorities; they will further disseminate these ocean information and alerts to the user community.

Q2. Consider the following statements.

1. Sendai Framework is an international Treaty on Disaster Risk Reduction held in Sendai, Japan.
2. Sendai Framework is successor of the Hyogo Framework.

Which of the above statements are/is correct.

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only



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- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

Reason: Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) is an international Treaty that was approved by UN member states in March 2015 at the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction held in Sendai, Japan. It is a voluntary and non-binding treaty which recognizes that the UN member State has the primary role to reduce disaster risk. It has framework for 15-year i.e. 2015 to 2030.

- It calls for sharing the responsibility with other stakeholders including local government, the private sector and other stakeholders.
- It is successor of the Hyogo Framework for Action (2005–2015), which had been the most encompassing international accord on disaster risk reduction.
- It sets of common standards, a comprehensive framework with achievable targets, and a legally-based instrument for disaster risk reduction.
- It calls for adopting integrated and inclusive institutional measures for preventing vulnerability to disaster, increase preparedness for response and recovery and strengthen resilience. Four specific priorities of Sendai Framework:
 - Understanding disaster risk
 - Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk
 - Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience
 - Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and recovery, reconstruction and rehabilitation.

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding BIOFIN.

1. It is a plan and pay for action on biodiversity conservation and its sustainable use.
2. The initiative is run by the UNDP with support from the Governments of Germany, Switzerland and the European Union.

Which of the above statements are/is correct.

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

Answer: C

Reason: The Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) is a global partnership that helps government's cost, plan and pay for action on biodiversity conservation and its sustainable use. It was launched in 2012. The BIOFIN methodology is being used by 19 countries to analyze, calculate and develop strategies to generate the funds they need to meet national biodiversity targets. The initiative is run by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) with support from the Governments of Germany, Switzerland and the European Union.

Q4. Consider the following statements about Project Loon.

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1. It is a network of balloons traveling on the edge of space, designed to connect people in rural and remote areas
2. Project Loon balloons float in the stratosphere, twice as high as airplanes and the weather

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Reason: Project Loon is a research and development project being developed by X (formerly Google X) with the mission of providing Internet access to rural and remote areas. The project uses high-altitude balloons placed in the stratosphere at an altitude of about 18 km (11 mi) to create an aerial wireless network with up to 4G-LTE speeds. It was named Project Loon, since even Google itself found the idea of providing Internet access to the remaining 5 billion population unprecedented and crazy/loony.

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding Zika virus.

1. It is spread by Aedes mosquitoes which is also responsible for dengue fever.
2. It can also be transmitted through sexual contact.

Which of the above statements are/is correct.

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

Answer: C

Reason: Zika virus (ZIKA) is a member of the virus family Flaviviridae. It is spread by daytime-active Aedes mosquitoes, such as *A. aegypti* and *A. albopictus*. Its name comes from the Zika Forest of Uganda, where the virus was first isolated in 1947. Zika virus is related to the dengue, yellow fever, Japanese encephalitis, and West Nile viruses. Since the 1950s, it has been known to occur within a narrow equatorial belt from Africa to Asia. From 2007 to 2016, the virus spread eastward, across the Pacific Ocean to the Americas, leading to the 2015–16 Zika virus epidemic.

Q6. Which are the harmful emissions that are identified for regulations in different Bharat Stages.

1. Lead
2. Carbon monoxide
3. Unburnt hydrocarbons
4. Sulphur oxide
5. Particulate matter

Choose the correct codes given below.

- a. 1, 2 and 3 only



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- b. 1, 3 and 4 only
- c. 2, 3 and 5 only
- d. 3, 4 and 5 only

Answer: C

Reason: Bharat Stage emission norms (equivalent to Euro norms for four-wheeled vehicles) were first introduced in 2000. These norms specify the maximum permissible emission limit for carbon monoxide (CO), hydrocarbons (HC), nitrous oxides (NO_x) and particulate matter (PM).

Q7. Which of the following diseases have been totally eradicated from India?

- 1. Polio
- 2. Leprosy
- 3. Smallpox
- 4. Yaws
- 5. Malaria

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- a. 1,3 and 4
- b. 1, 2, 3 and 4
- c. 1, 3, and 5
- d. 1,3,4 and 5

Answer: D

Reason: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eradication_of_infectious_diseases

Yaws has been eradicated last year but not the leprosy.

31.07.2017

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding National Company Law Tribunal.

- 1. National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) is a quasi-judicial body.
- 2. It was established under the Companies Act, 2013.

Which of the above statements are/is correct.

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

Answer: C

Reason: National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) is a quasi-judicial body that will govern the companies in India. It was established under the Companies Act, 2013 and is a successor body of the Company Law Board. NCLT will have the same powers as assigned to the erstwhile Company Law Board (which are mostly related to dealing with oppression and mismanagement), Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR)(revival of sick companies) and powers related to winding up of companies (which was available only with the High Courts).

Q2. Consider the following objectives of National green highway mission.

1. Its main objective is developing a framework for the plantation of trees along highways.
2. It reduces the impact of noise pollution and soil erosion.

Which of the above statements are/is correct.

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

Answer: C

Reason: The policy's objectives include

- developing a framework for the plantation of trees along highways,
- reducing the impact of air pollution and dust,
- providing shade on glaring hot roads during summer,
- reducing the impact of noise pollution and soil erosion,
- preventing the glare from the headlights of oncoming vehicles, and
- generating employment

Q3. Consider the following statements about Blue Mormon, a species of Butterfly

1. It is endemic to India.
2. It is listed as an endangered species by International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
3. It has been declared as 'State butterfly' of Karnataka.

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

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

Answer: B

Reason: The Blue Mormon is a large, swallowtail butterfly found primarily in Sri Lanka and India, mainly restricted to the Western Ghats of Maharashtra, South India and coastal belts. It may occasionally be spotted in the Maharashtra mainland between Vidarbha and Western Maharashtra. It is reportedly the second largest butterfly found in India, just smaller than the southern birdwing. Not uncommon. Not thought to be threatened. Occurs throughout the year but more common in the monsoon and immediately after it. Maharashtra has become the first State in the country to have a 'State butterfly.'

Q4. Consider the following:

1. Right to equality

2. Right to freedom
3. Right to freedom of religion
4. Right to constitutional remedies

Which among the above have been mentioned in Part III of the Constitution of India?

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

Answer: D

Reason: Fundamental Rights

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fundamental_rights_in_India

Q5. Consider the following

1. Governments of India Acts
2. Regulating Act
3. India independence act
4. Pitts India Act

Which of the above acts are under crown rule.

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

Answer: C

Reason: CROWN RULE (1858–1947)

- Governments of India Acts
- India independence act
- Indian Council Acts

Q6. Consider the following.

1. Rule of law
2. Secularism
3. The balance between Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles
4. The principle of Separation of Powers.

Which of the above statements is/are Basic structure of constitution.

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

Answer: D

Reason: Definition - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Basic_structure_doctrine



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Q7. Which article of the Constitution is called the 'Fundamental' of the Fundamental rights?

- a. Article 21
- b. Article 19
- c. Article 14
- d. Article 32

Answer: D

Reason: Article 32 provides the right to Constitutional remedies which means that a person has right to move to Supreme Court (and high courts also) for getting his fundamental rights protected.

Q8. Consider the following statements and identify the Act.

1. It is provided for two dominion states : India and Pakistan.
2. The Act was based upon the Mountbatten plan and it was passed by the British parliament.

Choose the correct code given below.

- a. Pitts Act
- b. India Independence Act
- c. Indian Council Act 1861
- d. Charter Act of 1853

Answer: B

Reason: The Indian Independence Act was based upon the Mountbatten plan of 3rd June 1947 and was passed by the British parliament on July 5, 1947. It received royal assent on July 18, 1947. It provided for two dominion states : India and Pakistan. The boundaries between the two dominion states were to be determined by a Boundary Commission which was headed by Sir Cyril Radcliff.

Q9. Which of the following is/are correct about Simon Commission?

1. It recommended abolition of diarchy
2. It was against continuation of communal electorate
3. It recommended extension of responsible government in the provinces

Choose the codes given below

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

Answer: C

Reason: The recommendations of the Simon Commission were published in May 1930.

- Dyarchy in the provinces should be abolished and ministers should be made responsible to the provincial legislatures in all departments, including the department of law and order.
- Advocated the continuation of separate electorate.

Q10. In which of the following points is the Indian Constitution similar to that of Canadian Constitution?

1. Federation with a strong Centre
2. Office of Governor
3. Advisory jurisdiction of the Supreme Court
4. Vesting of residuary powers in the Centre

Choose the correct codes

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

Answer: C

Reason: The following are the features borrowed by Indian Constitution from the Canadian Constitution

- Federation with a strong Centre
- Vesting of residuary powers in the Centre
- Appointment of state governors by the Centre (not Office of Governor)
- Advisory jurisdiction of the Supreme Court

Office of Governor was borrowed from Government of India Act of 1935.

