

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Compilation

10th to 15th May, 2021

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International Relations

Q1) Women's World Banking Report is released by:

- a) IMF
- b) WB
- c) IBRD
- d) None of the above

Correct Answer: D

Explanation

- The report is released by Women's World Banking Network. They partner with leading corporations to prove the commercial and social value of women's financial inclusion

Q.2) Christchurch Call to Action is often seen in news. Which of the following correctly describes it?

- a) It is an international action plan to achieve sustainable development goals
- b) It aims to address terrorist and violent extremist contents online
- c) It aims to create global awareness on Climate Change
- d) It is an international awareness initiative towards cyber security

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

- **Christchurch Call to Action** was launched during the Online Extremism Summit in Paris, France in 2019. The summit was co-chaired by New Zealand and France.
- **Objective:** The Christchurch Call is a global pledge by member governments and technology partners. Under this, they work together to address terrorist and violent extremist contents online.
- **Named after:** The call is named after the New Zealand city. In Christchurch, 51 members of the Muslim community were murdered in a live-streamed terrorist attack in 2019.
- **Member Countries:** Seventeen countries originally signed the agreement. Another 31 countries signed the agreement later.
- **India:** India is one of the member countries.

Read more: [Christchurch Call to Action](#)

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding Arctic Council

1. It is intergovernmental forum established by Ottawa Declaration
2. India is a 'member' in the Arctic Council

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

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Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

- **The Arctic Council** was formally established in 1996 by the **Ottawa Declaration**.
- **Purpose:** It is an intergovernmental forum for promoting cooperation, coordination and interaction among the Arctic States.
- **Members:** The members of the Arctic Council include Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden and the United States.
- **Observer Status:** Since 2013, India enjoys 'Observer' status in the Arctic Council. Twelve other observer countries are Japan, China, France, Germany, UK, Italy, Switzerland, Poland, Spain, Netherlands, Singapore, and South Korea.

Q.4) "Nature in a Globalised World: Conflict and Conservation" report is released by which of the following Organisation?

- a) World Wide Fund for Nature
- b) Global Environment Facility
- c) World Nature Organisation
- d) International Union for Conservation of Nature

Correct Answer: D

Explanation: International Union for Conservation of Nature(IUCN) has released a report titled "Nature in a Globalised World: Conflict and Conservation".

Key Findings of the Nature in a Globalised World Report:

- Armed Conflicts have numerous negative effects on nature. These include:
 - Direct killing of wildlife for food or trade
 - Degradation of ecosystems as both a tactic and a consequence of war
 - Disruption of conservation, e.g. through attacks on protected area staff and other conservationists.
- Civil unrest and military exercises pose a risk to more than 200 Endangered species. This includes even the iconic species such as the Critically Endangered Eastern gorilla.

Read more: [Nature in a Globalised World Report](#)

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY)

1. Under this, each person covered under the National Food Security Act(NFSA) will get an additional 5 kg of grains for free
2. Ministry of Finance is the Nodal Ministry

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

- **PMGKAY** was first announced in 2020 as a part of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package(PMGKP). It aims to help the poor to fight the battle against Covid-19.

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- **Aim:** The scheme is aimed at providing each person who is covered under the National Food Security Act(NFSA) with an additional 5 kg of grains (wheat or rice) for free. This is given over and above their monthly entitlement
- **Duration of the Scheme:** The scheme was announced in 2020 for three months till July 2020. Later it was extended till November 2020.
 - However, the scheme is functional once again. Under this new phase, around 80 crore beneficiaries would be covered for the months of May and June 2021.
- Its nodal Ministry is the **Ministry of Finance.**

Read more: [Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana\(PMGKAY\)](#)

Q.6) Two State Solution is often seen in news. It is related to which of the following?

- a) North and South Korea
- b) Turkey and Syria
- c) Israel and Palestine
- d) China and Japan

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

Two-state solution is encouraged between Israel and Palestine:

- It would create a sovereign Israel and Palestine. It would establish Palestine as an independent state in Gaza and most of the West Bank, leaving the rest of the land to Israel.
- It **has been the goal of the international community** for decades, dating back to the 1947 UN Partition Plan.
- The solution also identify a 1967 demarcation line known as the Green Line to partition Palestinian and Israeli land. It would also divide Jerusalem between the two states.
- Currently, India supports a **two-state solution** to the Israeli-Palestinian issue.

Q.7) KNOMAD often seen in news is a:

- a) Global taxonomic database
- b) Policy approach to fight COVID
- c) Blockchain protocol
- d) None of the above

Correct Answer: D

Explanation

- KNOMAD, the Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development, is a brain trust for the global migration community.
- It is an open, inclusive, multidisciplinary knowledge partnership that draws on experts to create and synthesize knowledge for use by policy makers in sending, receiving and transit countries.
- KNOMAD works in close coordination with the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) and the U.N. agencies working on migration.
- The World Bank has established a multi-donor trust fund to implement KNOMAD

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Q.8) “Migration and Development Brief” report is released by which of the following Organisation?

- a) International Monetary Fund
- b) World Bank
- c) United Nations Human Rights Council
- d) International Organisation for Migration

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Recently, the World Bank has released a report titled “**Migration and Development Brief, 2020**”.

Key findings:

- India has received the highest amount of remittances in 2020. This was followed by China, Mexico, the Philippines, Egypt, Pakistan, France and Bangladesh.

About the report:

- **Prepared by:** The report is prepared by the Migration and Remittances Unit, Development Economics (DEC)- the premier research and data arm of the World Bank.
- **Aim:** The report aims to provide an update on key developments. Especially in the area of migration and remittance flows and related policies over the past six months.
 - The report also provides medium-term projections of remittance flows to developing countries.
- **The report is produced** twice a year.

Read More: [Migration and Development Brief](#)

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Government Scheme & Initiatives

Q.1) PARIVESH portal, often seen in news, is related to:

- a) Management & clearance of environment projects
- b) Crimes against women
- c) Plant genomics and bioinformatics
- d) None of the above

Correct Answer: A

Explanation

- PARIVESH = **P**ro-**A**ctive and **R**esponsive facilitation by **I**nteractive, **V**irtuous and **E**nvironmental **S**ingle-window **H**ub
- PARIVESH is a Single-Window Integrated Environmental Management System for Environment, Forest, Wildlife and CRZ clearances
- It has been developed in line with Digital India
- It automates the entire process of submitting the application and tracking the status of such proposals at each stage of processing.
- The system has been designed, developed and hosted by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, with technical support from National Informatics Centre, (NIC).

Q.2) Shuvuuia deserti is often seen in news. Which of the following correctly describes it?

- a) It is a new species identified in the desert areas of Rajasthan
- b) It is a nocturnal dinosaur that lived 70 million years ago
- c) It is the oldest fossil of Tiger identified in Artic region
- d) It is a new mummy identified in Egypt.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

- Shuvuuia deserti small bird-like nocturnal dinosaur that lived 70 million years ago
- It was a pheasant-sized, two-legged Cretaceous Period dinosaur weighing about as much as a small house cat.
- It has an excellent night vision and superb hearing to hunt in total darkness.
- It lacks strong jaws and sharp teeth like many carnivorous dinosaurs
- It also has a bird-like and lightly built skull and many tiny teeth like the grains of rice

Q.3) Variants of Concern (VoC) & Variant of High Consequence were recently in news. In this respect, consider the statements below:

1. VoC is classified when there is clear evidence that prevention measures or medical countermeasures do not work on curbing the virus compared to other variants.
2. A variant of high consequence would require notification to WHO under the International Health Regulations

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

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Correct Answer: B

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** This is how Variant of high Consequence is classified, not VoC
- **Statement 2 is correct:** This is true. A variant of high consequence would require notification to WHO under the International Health Regulations, reporting to CDC, an announcement of strategies to prevent or contain transmission, and recommendations to update treatments and vaccines.

Read more: [VoC](#)

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding e-Sanjeevani:

1. It is a doctor to patient telemedicine system based on a hub & spoke model.
2. It is being implemented under Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centre programme.
3. It provides home delivery of medicines to senior citizens.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Correct Answer: B

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** It is a doctor-to-doctor telemedicine system
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It is a doctor-to-doctor telemedicine system being implemented under the Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centre (AB-HWCs) programme. It seeks to connect all 1,50,000 HWCs using the hub-and-spoke model by December 2022.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** No home delivery service is provided under e-Sanjeevani

Read more: [e-Sanjeevani](#)

Q.5) Jal Jeevan mission has been in news recently. In this respect, consider the following statements:

1. It envisions to provide safe & adequate drinking water through individual household tap connections by 2025.
2. It also provides potable drinking water to schools, health & wellness centers.
3. Sikkim became the first Har Ghar Jal state in the country.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 2
- b) 1 and 3
- c) Only 3
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Correct Answer: A

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** JJM aims to provide safe & adequate drinking water through individual household tap connections by 2024 to all rural households

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- **Statement 2 is correct:** JJM shall ensure potable drinking water security on long-term basis to every rural household and public institution, viz. GP building, School, Anganwadi centre, Health centre, wellness centres, etc.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Goa became the first Har Ghar Jal state

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA):

1. It is a statutory body under Ministry of Social Justice and empowerment
2. India has signed but yet to ratify the Hague adoption Convention

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Correct Answer: C

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** CARA is a statutory body under Ministry of Women and Child Development
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** India has ratified the Hague Adoption Convention (Hague Convention on Protection of Children and cooperation in respect of Inter-country Adoption)

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding Drugs and Cosmetics Act

1. Under the Drug and Cosmetics Act, the regulation of manufacture and sale of drugs is primarily the concern of the Central authorities.
2. Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) aims to ensure the safety & efficacy of drugs, cosmetics and medical devices.
3. Drugs Technical Advisory Board (DTAB) is a statutory body.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) All of the above

Correct Answer: B

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Under the Drug and Cosmetics Act, the regulation of manufacture and sale of drugs is primarily the concern of the State authorities while the Central Authorities are responsible for approval of New Drugs, Clinical Trials in the country, laying down the standards for Drugs, control over the quality of imported Drugs, coordination of the activities of State Drug Control Organisations and providing expert advice with a view of bring about the uniformity in the enforcement of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act
- **Statement 2 is correct:** One of the missions of CDSCO is to safeguard and enhance the public health by assuring the safety, efficacy and quality of drugs, cosmetics and medical devices.

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- **Statement 3 is correct:** DTAB is highest statutory decision-making body on technical matters related to drugs in the country. It was constituted as per the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940. It is part of Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Q.8) Consider the following statements on **Conventions related to child**

1. India is a signatory to Hague Convention on Protection of Children
2. India is not a signatory to UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

India is signatory to both the conventions.

India became the signatory to the **Hague Convention on Protection of Children** and Co-operation in Respect of Inter-country Adoptions. **Central Adoption Resource Authority** was designated as the nodal agency to grant a no-objection certificate for all inter-country adoptions.

India is also a signatory to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child: It provides a legal mandate of all authorities and courts to offer protection to children.

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding community transmission (CT):

1. CT happens when new cases in last 14 days cannot be traced to those who have an international travel history
2. A cluster of cases classification entails a similar response from the health authorities as community transmission

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Correct Answer: B

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct:** In general, the World Health Organization (WHO) uses the following categories to describe transmission patterns: sporadic cases, clusters of cases and community transmission.

- **Sporadic cases** - small number of cases (one or more) that are either imported or detected locally;
- **clusters of cases** - cases that are clustered in time, geographic location and or by common exposures;
- **community transmission** - Community transmission simply means that the epidemic has become so widespread in a community that it gets difficult, if not impossible, to determine who is passing on the infection to whom. The source and

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chain of infections can no longer be established. Determining the chain of infections is key to the containment strategy that is being followed. Contact tracing, identification, testing and isolation of suspect cases are all dependent on establishing this chain.

- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Response in case of community transmission would be different. If cases were still a cluster, it would mean that the government ought to be prioritising testing, contact tracing and isolating to prevent further infection spread. CT, on the other hand meant prioritising treatment and observing advisories to stay protected.

Read more: [community transmission \(CT\)](#)

Q.10) Consider the statements regarding District Skill Committees (DSCs):

1. DSCs function under the guidance of State Skill Development Missions
2. They are headed by the chairman of the Panchayat Samiti

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Correct Answer: A

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct:** District Skill Committees (DSCs) function under the guidance of State Skill Development Missions (SSDM). These DSCs play a key role in addressing the skill gap and assessing demand at the district level. DSC is composed of all the significant district development departmental officers.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The DSCs are headed by the District Collector.

Q.11) Consider the following statements on Horticulture

1. The Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) is being implemented as a part of the Green Revolution - Krishonnati Yojana.
2. In 2019-20, India recorded its highest ever horticulture production

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH):

- The mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the holistic growth of the horticulture sector.
- **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare is implementing the MIDH scheme since 2014-15.
- **Part of:** The scheme is being implemented as a part of the Green Revolution - Krishonnati Yojana.
- **Coverage:** The scheme covers fruits, vegetables, root and tuber crops. The scheme also covers mushrooms, spices, flowers, aromatic plants, coconut, cashew and cocoa.

Productivity of Horticulture:

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- **Area and production** under horticulture crops during the years 2014 – 15 to 2019 – 20 has increased by 9% and 14% respectively.
- **During the year 2019-20**, the country recorded its highest ever horticulture production of 320.77 million tonnes from an area of 25.66 million hectares.

Read more: [Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture \(MIDH\)](#)

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Science & Technology

Q.1) Kabasura Kudineer is often seen in news. Which of the following correctly describes it?

- It is a traditional medicine used for managing common respiratory health.
- It is a new plant species discovered in western ghats
- It is a new butterfly species discovered in North Eastern India
- It is a traditional water storage practice followed by South Indian kingdoms

Correct Answer: A

- Kabasura Kudineer is a traditional formulation used by Siddha practitioners for managing common respiratory health.
- It is a herbal mixture of various ingredients or elements. It comprises of dry ingredients of ginger, pippali, clove, kadukkai, ajwain and many other herbs.
- Kabasura Kudineer has been found to be useful in the treatment of asymptomatic, mild, and moderate COVID-19 infection cases.
- Recently, AYUSH Ministry launched a massive nationwide campaign to distribute Kabasura Kudineer

Q.2) Which of the following cause methane emission in atmosphere?

- Oil and gas extraction
- Coal mining
- Rice cultivation
- Digestive processes of termites

Select your answer from the codes given below:

- 1,2 and 3
- 2 and 3
- 1 and 3
- All of the above

Correct Answer: D

Explanation: Source of Methane Emissions:

Natural Sources: emissions from wetlands and oceans, and from the digestive processes of termites.

Anthropogenic Sources:

- **More than half of** global methane emissions stem from human activities in three sectors: fossil fuels (35%), waste (20%) and agriculture (40%).
- **Fossil fuel sector:** Oil and gas extraction, processing and distribution account for 23%. Coal mining alone accounts for 12% of emissions.
- **Waste sector:** Landfills and wastewater make up about 20% of global anthropogenic emissions.
- **Agricultural sector:** Livestock emissions from manure and fermentation represent roughly 32%. Further, rice cultivation accounts for 8% of global anthropogenic emissions.

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Q.3) 2-DG, sometimes seen in news, is related to:

- Asteroid impact avoidance
- Medical Oxygen storage
- COVID drug development
- Vaccine hesitancy

Correct Answer: C

Explanation

- Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) has developed an anti-COVID drug named 2-deoxy-D-glucose(2-DG). 2-deoxy-D-glucose (2-DG) is an anti-Covid oral drug. It has been developed by the Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Allied Sciences (INMAS), a lab of DRDO in collaboration with Dr Reddy's Laboratories (DRL)
- The drug helps in the faster recovery of hospitalised patients. Further, it also reduces supplemental oxygen dependence.
- A higher proportion of patients treated with 2-DG also showed RT-PCR negative conversion in Covid-19 patients.

Q.4) Bennu is often seen in news. In this respect, consider the following statements:

- It has been classified as a Near Earth Object
- It is believed to be originated in the main Asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter
- OSIRIS-Rex is the first mission to land on an asteroid

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- Only 1
- 1 and 2 only
- Only 3
- 1, 2 and 3

Correct Answer: B

Explanation

- Statement 1 is correct:** Yes. Bennu is a Near Earth Object. Near-Earth Objects (NEOs) are comets and asteroids that have been nudged by the gravitational attraction of nearby planets into orbits that allow them to enter the Earth's neighborhood.
- Statement 2 is correct:** Bennu likely broke off from a much larger carbon-rich asteroid about 700 million to 2 billion years ago. It likely formed in the Main Asteroid Belt between Mars and Jupiter, and has drifted much closer to Earth since then.
- Statement 3 is incorrect:** NASA's NEAR was the first spacecraft to orbit an asteroid and also was the first to land on one.

Read more: [Asteroid Bennu](#)

Q.5) Which of the following is a short-lived climate pollutant?

- Black carbon
- Methane
- Tropospheric Ozone

Select your answer from the codes given below:

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

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d) 1, 2 and 3

Correct Answer: D

Explanation

- **Short-lived climate pollutants** are climate pollutants that remain in the atmosphere for a much shorter period of time than carbon dioxide (CO₂). Though short-lived they have the potential to warm the atmosphere many times greater than CO₂.
- **Several short-lived climate pollutants** like black carbon, methane, tropospheric ozone, and hydrofluorocarbons. These alone are responsible for up to 45% of current global warming.

Q.6) D614G, often seen in news, is a:

- a) Near earth object
- b) Mutation in SARS-CoV-2
- c) Potential superconductor
- d) Palaeolithic site

Correct Answer: B

Explanation

- While novel coronavirus is undergoing many mutations, one particular mutation called D614G, according to a study, has become the dominant variant in the global COVID-19 pandemic
- When the virus enters an individual's body, it aims at creating copies of itself. When it makes an error in this copying process, we get a mutation.
- In this case, the virus replaced the aspartic acid (D) in the 614th position of the amino acid with glycine (G). Hence the mutation is called the D614G. This mutated form of the virus was first identified in China and then in Europe. Later it spread to other countries like the U.S. and Canada and was eventually reported in India.

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding Venus

1. Venus is the only planet in solar system that rotate from east to west (Clock wise).
2. Venus is the only planet in solar system that does not have any moon.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

- **Venus** and Uranus are the only planets in solar system that rotate from east to west(Clock wise).
- Venus does not have any moons, a distinction it shares only with Mercury among the planets in the Solar System.

Read more: [Venus](#)

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Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding Ivermectin:

1. It is an anti-parasitic drug administered orally
2. It was removed from the WHO essential medicines list in the wake of COVID crisis

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Correct Answer: A

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct:** It is a broad spectrum anti-parasitic agent administered orally to the patients
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** It is included in WHO essential medicines list for several parasitic diseases.

Q.9) Consider the following statements on Advanced Chemistry Cells (ACC)

1. These cells store electric energy either as electrochemical or as chemical energy
2. All the demand of the ACCs is currently being met through imports in India

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: ACCs are the new generation of advanced storage technologies that can store electric energy either as electrochemical or as chemical energy and convert it back to electric energy as and when required.

All the demand of the ACCs is currently being met through imports in India.

To reduce that, the Cabinet has recently approved the proposal of **Department of Heavy Industry** for implementation of **the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme** for 'National Programme on Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) Battery Storage'. The scheme aims to achieve manufacturing capacity of Fifty (50) GigaWatt Hour (GWh) of ACC and 5 GWh of "Niche" ACC.

Q.10) 'Iron Dome Interceptor' was some time seen in news. Which of the following country have that technology?

- a) Germany
- b) Russia
- c) China
- d) Israel

Correct Answer: D

About Iron Dome:

- **Iron Dome** is a short-range, ground-to-air, air defence system. It is developed by Israeli manufacturer Rafael Advanced Defense Systems with support from the United States.

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- **Purpose:** It is used for countering rockets, artillery & mortars (C-RAM). It will also counter aircraft, helicopters and unmanned aerial vehicles fired from distances of up to 70 kilometres.

How does Iron Dome work? The Iron Dome has three main systems. These systems will work together to provide a shield over the area where it is deployed, handling multiple threats

Other key Features:

- The missile is capable of being used in all weather conditions, including during the day and night.
- Israel claims the system has stopped thousands of enemy launches from hitting targets, with a success rate of more than 90%.

Read more: [Iron Dome](#)

Q.11) Consider the following statements on **Water Hyacinth**

1. It is an invasive aquatic plant
2. The plant act as a prime habitat for mosquitoes

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

- Water hyacinth is a free-floating and flowering invasive aquatic plant that originated from Amazon Basin, South America.
- **Effects of Water Hyacinth:**
 - **Water Hyacinth** interferes with boat navigation and prevents fishing, swimming and other recreational activities.
 - **The water hyacinth** may also clog intake pipes used for drinking water, hydropower or irrigation.
 - Moreover, it creates a prime habitat for mosquitoes that carry a variety of infectious diseases. So, water hyacinth is also considered a serious threat to biodiversity and human health

Read more: [Water Hyacinth](#)

Q.12) Consider the following statements about **Lumpy skin disease (LSD)**

1. The LSD is endemic to the regions Africa and parts of West Asia
2. There is no treatment for Lumpy skin disease virus
3. The disease is so far not recorded in India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

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Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

- Lumpy Skin Disease is a **viral illness that causes prolonged morbidity in cattle and buffaloes**.
- It caused by **the poxvirus Lumpy skin disease virus (LSDV)**.
- It spreads through mosquitoes, flies and ticks and also through saliva and contaminated water and food.
- There is no treatment for the virus, so prevention by vaccination is the most effective means of control
- **Affected Countries:**
 - LSD is endemic to Africa and parts of West Asia, where it was first discovered in 1929.
 - In Southeast Asia the first case of LSD was reported in Bangladesh in July 2019.
 - In India it was first reported from Mayurbhanj, Odisha in August 2019.
- Recently The Bihar government sounded an alert and issued an advisory about the likely spread of the disease.

Q.13) Utopia Planitia sometimes seen in news is a:

- a) A Lunar crater
- b) Volcanic region on Mars
- c) NASA's mission to Saturn
- d) None of the above

Correct Answer: B

Explanation

- It is a northern lava plain on the planet Mars that was selected as the landing site of the U.S. Viking 2 planetary probe.
- China recently succeeded with its first planetary landing attempt, safely setting down the solar powered Zhurong rover on the surface of Mars

Q.14) Yaogan Satellites belongs to which of the following countries?

- a) Australia
- b) The USA
- c) Russia
- d) China

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

- Yaogan is a series of Chinese reconnaissance satellites launched in the early 21st century.
- Purpose: The satellites will be used for electromagnetic environment surveys and other related technology tests.
- First Launched in: The first Yaogan 1 satellite was launched in the year 2006.
- Concerns: Western analysts suspect that these Yaogan satellites are equipped with synthetic aperture radar(SAR) for military reconnaissance purposes.

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- Recently, China has successfully launched the eighth group of three Yaogan-30 satellites into orbit on a Long March 2C rocket.

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Geography

Q.1) Andaman & Nicobar is an archipelago in Bay of Bengal. In that respect, arrange the following locations from North to South:

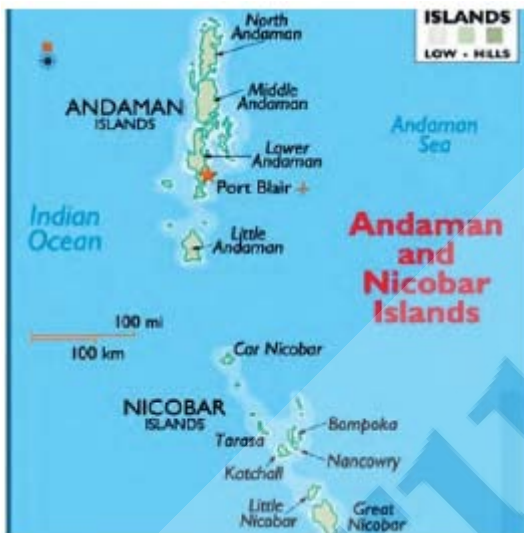
1. Great Nicobar
2. Car Nicobar
3. Little Nicobar

Select your answer from the codes given below:

- a) 3-2-1
- b) 1-2-3
- c) 2-3-1
- d) 3-1-2

Correct Answer: C

Explanation



Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding Giant Leatherback Turtle:

1. Within Indian ocean they nest only in Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
2. Listed as Critically Endangered in the IUCN red list

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Correct Answer: D

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The largest of the seven species of sea turtles on the planet and also the most long-ranging, Leatherbacks are found in all oceans except the Arctic and the Antarctic. Within the Indian Ocean, they nest only in Indonesia, Sri Lanka and the A&N Islands.

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- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Their conservation status is Vulnerable (VU) in the IUCN red list

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding **Pangolins**

1. Pangolins are the world's most trafficked mammal
2. In India, Indian and Chinese Pangolins are kept under Schedule I of Wildlife protection Act
3. Both Indian and Chinese Pangolin are Critically Endangered

Select your answer from the codes given below:

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) All of the above

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

- Pangolins are the world's most trafficked mammal
- Out of the eight species of pangolin, the Indian Pangolin and the Chinese Pangolin are found in India
- **Indian Pangolin:**
 - Indian Pangolin is widely distributed in India, except in the arid region, high Himalayas and the North-East. The species also occurs in Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal and Sri Lanka.
 - **IUCN Status:** Endangered
 - **Wildlife Protection Act, 1972:** under Schedule I.
- **Chinese Pangolin:**
 - It is widely distributed in Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia and the northeastern part of India.
 - **IUCN Status:** Critically Endangered
 - **Wildlife Protection Act, 1972:** Under Schedule I

Read more: [Pangolin](#)

Q.4) 10-degree channel lies between:

- a) North Andaman & Little Andaman
- b) Little Andaman & Middle Andaman
- c) Little Andaman & Car Nicobar
- d) Car Nicobar & Little Nicobar

Correct Answer: C

Explanation

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- It separates the Andaman Islands and Nicobar Islands from each other

Q.5) Volcanic eruptions are witness frequently at various places. In this respect, consider the statements below:

1. Explosivity of an eruption is function of the composition of the Magma
2. More than the Lava flow, suffocation is the most common cause of death from a volcano
3. Volcanic emissions reaching the stratosphere can have a cooling effect on global temperatures

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) All of the above

Correct Answer: D

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct:** When the magma is runny and thin, gases can easily escape it. In such cases, the magma will flow out towards the surface. However, if the magma is thick and dense and gases cannot escape it, it builds up pressure inside resulting in a violent explosion.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** According to the US Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the most common cause of death from a volcano is suffocation, making people with respiratory conditions such as asthma and other chronic lung diseases susceptible.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Volcanic emissions reaching the stratosphere can have a cooling effect on global temperatures.

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- The most significant climate impacts from volcanic injections into the stratosphere come from the **conversion of sulphur dioxide to sulphuric acid**, which condenses rapidly in the stratosphere to form fine sulphate aerosols
- The **aerosols increase the reflection of radiation** from the Sun back into space, cooling the Earth's lower atmosphere or troposphere.
- Bigger eruptions during the past century have caused a decrease in temperature of 0.27 degree Celsius or more on the Earth's surface for up to three years.

Q.6) Which of the following countries border the Mediterranean Sea?

1. Israel
2. Lebanon
3. Jordan
4. Cyprus
5. Syria
6. Turkey

Select your answer from the codes given below:

- a) 1, 2, 4, 5, 6
- b) 2, 3, 4, 5
- c) 1, 3, 5, 6
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4, 6

Correct Answer: A

Explanation



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Q.7) Which of the following countries share land border with Israel?

1. Syria
2. Lebanon
3. Turkey
4. Egypt

Select your answer from the codes given below:

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

Correct Answer: D

Explanation



Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH):

1. Scheme coverage extends to vegetables, fruits, tuber crops and bamboo
2. It is a centrally sponsored scheme

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

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Correct Answer: D

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct:** MIDH aims for the holistic growth of the horticulture sector covering fruits, vegetables, root & tuber crops, mushrooms, spices, flowers, aromatic plants, coconut, cashew, cocoa and bamboo
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It is a centrally sponsored scheme. Government of India (GOI) contributes 60%, of total outlay for developmental programmes in all the states except states in North East and Himalayas, 40% share is contributed by State Governments. In the case of North Eastern States and Himalayan States, GOI contributes 90%.

Q.9) Kachin people was sometimes seen in news. Which one of the following countries they belong to?

- a) Palestine
- b) Myanmar
- c) Pakistan
- d) Russia

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: Recently, Protests against Myanmar's military government got intensified in the Kachin Hills.

- Kachin people are a confederation of ethnic groups. They inhabit the Kachin Hills in northern Myanmar's Kachin State. They also present in neighbouring Yunnan Province, China, and Arunachal Pradesh, Assam in Northeastern India.
- The term Kachin people is often used interchangeably with the main subset, called the Jingpo people in China

Q.10) Consider the following statement on Bonda tribe

1. They are one of the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) in India
2. They follow Matriarchal societal norms.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

Recently 21 tribals across eight different **Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)** in Odisha have tested positive for Covid-19. Among them, two persons are from the Bonda tribe.

About Bonda Tribe:

- **Bonda tribes** are one of the 13 Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) found in Odisha.
- **Origin:** Bonda tribes are members of a group of Austro-Asiatic tribes. They are believed to be part of the first wave of migration out of Africa about 60,000 years ago. They are the first forest settlers in India.
- **Culture:** The Bondas have retained their identity and culture despite external interventions over the years.

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- **Occupation:** They are primarily forest dwellers. They perform hunting and foraging for food in the wild.
- **Matriarchal society:** The women prefer to marry men who are younger by at least 5-10 years. This is done because the men can earn for them when they grow old.

Read More: [Bonda Tribe](#)

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Economy

Q.1) Which of the following will likely cause an increase in India's forex reserves?

1. Fall in crude oil price
2. Increase in foreign travel
3. Depreciation of rupee

Select your answer from the codes given below:

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) All of the above

Correct Answer: C

Explanation

- **Fall in crude oil prices** will bring down the oil import bill, saving the precious foreign exchange. India has to shell out money in dollars whenever it imports crude oil. So, whenever there is a fall in prices of crude oil, government has to pay less thereby resulting in reduced oil import bill. This will lead to increase in forex reserves.
- **Increased foreign travels:** Foreign travel shall result in dollar outflows as people will spend dollars during their international travels.
- **Depreciation of rupee:** This will lead to increased exports resulting in increased dollar inflows.

Q.2 'Connected Commerce: Creating a Roadmap for a Digitally Inclusive Bharat' report is released by which of the following Organisation?

- a) NITI Aayog
- b) Reserve Bank of India
- c) National Payments Corporation of India
- d) Securities and Exchange Board of India

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

Connected Commerce: Creating a Roadmap for a Digitally Inclusive Bharat' report was jointly released by the NITI Aayog and **Mastercard**

- The report identifies challenges in accelerating **Digital Financial Inclusion (DFI)** in India.
- The report also provides recommendations for making digital services accessible to its 1.3 billion citizens.

The recommendations Include:

- For market players, it is critical to **address the gap on the demand side** by creating user-friendly digital products and services. For example: **FASTag**.
- **Strengthening the payment infrastructure** to promote a level playing field for **Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs)** and banks.
- **Digitizing registration and compliance processes** and diversifying credit sources to enable growth opportunities for **MSMEs**.

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Q.3) Consider the following statement regarding **Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA)**

1. It is a Non-Banking Financial Company(NFBC) with Reserve Bank of India(RBI).
2. It is the only dedicated institution for financing Renewable Energy (RE) & Energy Efficiency (EE) projects in India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

- **Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency(IREDA)** is a Mini Ratna Enterprise of the Government of India. It was founded in 1987.
- **Purpose:** IREDA promotes, develops, and extends financial assistance for setting up projects relating to new and renewable sources of energy.
- **Nodal Ministry:** It comes under the administrative control of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).
- **Registered under:** IREDA has been notified as a Public Financial Institution under Companies Act,1956. It is registered as Non-Banking Financial Company(NFBC) with Reserve Bank of India(RBI).
- **Motto:** IREDA's Motto is "Energy for Ever."
- **Significance:** It is the only dedicated institution for financing Renewable Energy (RE) & Energy Efficiency (EE) projects in India.

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding inflation:

1. Headline inflation measures overall inflation in the economy
2. Under flexible inflation targeting RBI uses core CPI inflation is used as a target rate for inflation

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Correct Answer: A

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct:** It is a measure of the total inflation within an economy, including commodities such as food and energy prices (e.g., oil and gas)
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Under flexible inflation targeting RBI uses headline CPI inflation instead of core CPI inflation.
 - **Core inflation** is the change in the costs of goods and services but does not include those from the food and energy sectors. This measure of inflation excludes these items because their prices are much more volatile.

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Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding Purchasing Managers Index (PMI):

1. It indicates business activity in manufacturing, agriculture and services sectors.
2. RBI prepares and then releases it on a monthly basis
3. A value above 50 indicates business expansion

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

- a) Only 1
- b) 1 and 3
- c) Only 3
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Correct Answer: C

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** PMI or a Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) is an indicator of business activity -- both in the manufacturing and services sectors. It is a survey-based measures that asks the respondents about changes in their perception of some key business variables from the month before. It is calculated separately for the manufacturing and services sectors and then a composite index is constructed.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** For India, PMI is prepared by a Japanese firm Nikkei and compiled by Markit Economics. For US, PMI is prepared by The Institute of Supply Management (ISM)
- **Statement 3 is correct:** A value above 50 indicates expansion in business activity while a value below 50 indicates contraction in economic activity

Q.6) Consider the following statements about Sovereign Gold Bond (SGB) scheme

1. The interest on Gold Bonds shall be taxable as per the provision of Income Tax Act
2. The SGB bonds can be sold immediately like physical gold.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Correct Answer: A

Explanation

- The capital gains tax arising on redemption of SGB to an individual has been exempted. But, the interest on Gold Bonds shall be taxable as per the provision of Income Tax Act
- The time period of the Bond will be for a period of 8 years with exit option in 5th, 6th and 7th year. So, the bonds cannot be sold immediately like physical gold. This is one of the drawbacks of investing in SGB scheme.
- Bonds can be used as collateral for loans.

Recently the Government of India, decided to issue Sovereign Gold Bonds in six tranches from May 2021 to September 2021

Read more: [Sovereign Gold Bond \(SGB\) scheme](#)

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History

Q.1) Consider the following paragraph

He visited Ireland and made Irish nationalist Alfred Webb to serve as the President of the Indian National Congress. He published a daily newspaper Jnanaprakash. He served as Secretary of the Deccan Education Society. He is the Political mentor to both Mohammed Ali Jinnah and Mahatma Gandhi

Which of the following personality is described in the above paragraph?

- a) Mohammed Ali Jinnah
- b) Gopal Krishna Gokhale
- c) Mahadev Govind Ranade
- d) Raja Ram Mohan Roy

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: Recently Indian PM paid tributes to Gopal Krishna Gokhale on his birth anniversary. He was born on 9 May 1866

Contributions of GK Gokhale:

- He visited Ireland and made Irish nationalist Alfred Webb to serve as the President of the Indian National Congress in 1894.
- He published a daily newspaper Jnanaprakash.
- He served as Secretary of the Deccan Education Society.
- In 1905, he founded the Servants of India Society. The Society trained people to be selfless workers so that they could work for the common good of the people.
- He was also elected as the President of the Indian National Congress in 1905 in Banaras session.
- Gokhale was instrumental in the formation of the Minto-Morley Reforms of 1909, which eventually became law.
- Gokhale was a mentor to both Mohammed Jinnah and Mahatma Gandhi. Mahatma Gandhi even wrote a book called, 'Gokhale, My Political Guru'.

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Polity

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding “**Simultaneous Elections**” in India

1. India never had a simultaneous election since its independence.
2. India needs to amend certain provisions of Constitution to bring Simultaneous elections at present

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

- India had concurrent elections **for the first two decades after independence**. The first general elections held simultaneously to Lok Sabha and the Legislative Assemblies of the States **in October 1951**.
- The upcoming elections were also simultaneous one with few exceptions.
- To implement one nation one election the following Articles of Constitution and legislations have to be amended.
 - a. Clause (2) of Article 83 provides for the **terms of Lok Sabha** (five years from the date appointed). Similarly, Article 172(1) regards the **term of Legislative Assemblies**.
 - b. Articles 85(2)(b) and 174(2)(b) provides for the **dissolution of Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies** respectively.
 - c. Further, the Indian constitution has **no provision for extension** of the term unless a proclamation of Emergency is in operation.

Q.2) Mashelkar committee, seen in news sometimes, is related to:

- a) Spurious drugs
- b) Prison reforms
- c) Higher education
- d) Police reforms

Correct Answer: A

Explanation

- The Government of India constituted an Expert Committee under the chairmanship of Dr. R.A. Mashelkar to examine all the aspects regarding the regulatory infrastructure and the extent and problem of spurious / substandard drugs in the country.
- It submitted its report in 2003

Q.3) Consider the following statements on **National Cadet Corps**

1. H. N. Kunzru Committee led to the formation of National Cadet Corps
2. It is the world’s largest uniformed youth volunteer service organization
3. Its gender ratio is higher than any other uniformed organization

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

- a) Only 1

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- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) Only 2
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Correct Answer: D

Explanations: National Cadet Corps (NCC)

The NCC was formed in 1948 on the recommendation of the H. N. Kunzru Committee [1946].

Significance of NCC-

- NCC is the world's largest uniformed youth volunteer service organization.
- The NCC cadets undergo basic military training at various levels and as well as academic curriculum basics related to the Armed forces and their functioning.
- Its gender ratio is higher than any other uniformed organization in the world. With female cadets responsible for one-third of the number.

Recently, The UGC has forwarded the proposal to universities to introduce NCC as an elective subject in the curriculum.

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Environment

Q.1) Consider the following statement regarding **Bamboo**

1. Bamboo can tolerate extreme conditions than most plants.
2. The National Bamboo mission was launched by the Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

Bamboo can tolerate extreme conditions than most plants. For instance, Bamboo was actually the first plant to re-green after the atomic blast in Hiroshima in 1945.

The National Bamboo mission was launched by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

Objectives of the mission:

- **To increase the area under bamboo plantation** in non-forest Government and private lands. This is to supplement farm income and contribute towards resilience to climate change.
- **To improve post-harvest management** through the establishment of innovative primary processing units. These units were particularly located near the source of production, primary treatment, and seasoning plants, and market infrastructure.
- **Further, to promote product development** at micro, small and medium levels and feed bigger industry.
- **To rejuvenate** the underdeveloped bamboo industry in India.

Read more: [National Bamboo Mission](#)

Q.2) **HakkiPikki Tribe** is related to which of the following state?

- a) Assam
- b) Karnataka
- c) Rajasthan
- d) Himachal Pradesh

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

- The HakkiPikki tribes are semi nomadic tribal people. They have **four clans** namely the **Gujrathioa, Kaliwala, Mewara and Panwara**.
- They speak many **south Indian languages** such as **Kannada, Tamil, Telugu and Malayalam** along with **Vagribooli** which is similar to **Guajarati**.
- The HakkiPikki, meaning **“bird catchers”** in Kannada.
- It is a **Scheduled Tribe** in Karnataka.
- **Origin and History:**

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- The origin of HakkiPikki tribal communities has a rich history and is said to be an ancestral relation with the legendary **Ranapratap Singh**.
- The HakkiPikki tribal community are a **Kshatriya or warrior tribal community** who had to migrate to southern India after their defeat with Mughal kings.
- Recently, some people of the **HakkiPikki** Tribe survived Covid-19 pandemic.

Q.3) Kam Sorai, often seen in news, is a:

- a) Folk ritual of Garo tribe
- b) A medicinal plant
- c) Ancient tribal deity
- d) None of the above

Correct Answer: D

Explanation

- Kam Sorai or Purple moorhen is a resident bird of Deepor Beel Wildlife sanctuary.

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding Eichhornia crassipes

1. It affects marine life by causing a decline in aquatic oxygen availability
2. It's also known by the name of Bengal Terror

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: Eichhornia crassipes is also known as Water Hyacinth. It is a free-floating aquatic plant native to South America and is considered as an invasive alien species.

- **Statement 1 is correct:** It grows rapidly and can form thick layers over the water. These mats shade out the other aquatic plants. Eventually, these shaded plants die and decay. The decaying process depletes the amount of dissolved oxygen in the water. As oxygen levels decline, many fish are unable to survive. Hence, often the waters below water hyacinth masses witness the absence of life.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Water Hyacinth is also referred to as the Bengal terror. This is because of its effect on the local ecology and lives of the people.

Q.5) Bambusa balcooa was sometimes seen in news. Which of the following correctly describes it?

- a) It is a new turtle species identified in Western Ghats
- b) It is a bamboo species that has high strength
- c) It is a traditional farming practice practised among tribal people of Assam
- d) It is an eco-friendly water conservation mechanism that convert saline water as drinking water.

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Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

- **Bambusa balcooa** is also known as Female Bamboo is a tropical clumping bamboo. It is native to Northeastern India. It is also spread in the regions of Indo-China.
- **Uses:**
 - **This bamboo species** is often used as a food source in scaffolding, for paper pulp or wood chips.
 - **The length and strength** of Bambusa balcooa make it a useful material for the construction industry.
 - **Furthermore, it is a drought-resistant species** with low rainfall requirements. It can reach yields upwards of 100 metric tons per hectare.

Q.6) Consider the following statements on **Red Eared Slider Turtles**

1. It is an invasive turtle species.
2. It is native to the Southern United States and northern Mexico
3. People keep the Red-Eared slider turtle as pets.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

- **The red-eared slider** is a semi-aquatic turtle belonging to the family Emydidae.
- **Origin:** They are native to the Southern United States and northern Mexico. But they are found in other countries as well because they are famous as pets.
 - People keep the Red-Eared slider turtle as pets. They release them in natural water bodies after they outgrow an aquarium, tank, or pool at home.
- **Invasive Species:** These turtles are considered one of the world's worst invasive species. This is because they grow fast and virtually leave nothing for the native species to eat.

Read more: [Red-Eared Slider turtle](#)

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding **Project Elephant:**

1. It is a centrally-sponsored government scheme
2. Elephant has been declared as a national heritage animal of India
3. Singhbhum was the first elephant reserve

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

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Correct Answer: D

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Project Elephant was launched by the Government of India in the year 1992 as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Elephant was declared as a national heritage animal of India in 2010
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The very first elephant reserve or elephant sanctuary was the Singhbhum Elephant Reserve of Jharkhand.

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